Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 1st March 1873.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.						
	Western Districts.	1873.				
Burdwan Divn. 1	Burdwan ...	Mar. 4th*	Nil.	Weather growing hot	Winter crops reaped and gathered; sugarcane being cut and pressed. Spring crops beginning to be sown. Rain much wanted. Grain market cheaper.	Fever decreasing; few cases of cholera within the Culna sub-division.
2	Bancoorah ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Getting hot, but perceptibly colder during the last two days.	Barley, wheat, and cotton, are doing well; sugarcane and mustard being cut. A good outturn is expected.	
3	Beerbhoom ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Warm	No change; rain would be beneficial.	
4	Midnapore ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Hot and dry ...	Rain wanted for the cold weather crops.	Sporadic cholera in many parts of the district.
5	Hooghly ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Clear. Warmer since last report, foggy three mornings.	Winter crops good, and gathered.	
	Howrah ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Clear; no rain on Saturday night, only it was cloudy	About the Rajapore jheel boro dhan has been sown in nurseries, and in some places the seedlings have been transplanted and look well. Rain is wanted for the young sugarcane and for the jute and sunn—hemp sowings.	
	Central Districts.					
Presidency Divn. 6	24-Pergunnahs ...	,, 4th	Nil.	Weather clear, strong south-west wind generally prevailing. Heat less oppressive.	Crops all gathered. Rain much wanted and ploughing retarded in consequence.	General health good. Cholera reported in the Diamond Harbour sub-division only.
7	Nuddea ..	,, 1st	Nil.	Weather warm until the last two days.	The cold weather crops are now fast being gathered. The outturn is generally fair. Indigo wants rain, but the ripe and ripening crops would be injured by it.	
8	Jessore ...	,, 1st	·04	Cold and clear ...	Good, except in Jenida and Magoora sub-divisions, where much damage has been caused to peas and kalai by sooa-poka insect.	
Rajshahye Division. 9	Moorshedabad ..	,, 1st	Nil.	Unseasonably warm until the 1st March.	Prospects generally fair, but rain is wanted.	Cholera and small-pox prevalent in various parts of the district.
10	Dinagepore ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Fine. Still cool ...	Good.	
11	Maldah ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Dry and warm; westerly winds.	Wheat, barley, and other crops of the season are doing well. Rain is wanted for the indigo sowings.	
12	Rajshahye ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Seasonable ...	In some parts the til and mustard crops are suffering from insects. Indigo is doing well. Rain is wanted.	
13	Rungpore ...	,, 1st	Nil.	Slight rain fell on one day.	Good.	

* Telegram of the 4th March received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.—(*Contd.*)						
	Central Districts.—(*Contd.*)	1873.				
Rajshahye Divn. 14	Bograh ...	Mar. 1st	Nil.	On the first two days of the week the atmosphere was foggy, after that the weather was fine and delightful. Western wind has begun to blow.	There are scarcely any crops on the ground at present but the pulses, which are not yet ripe in some parts of the district. In eastern parts their outturn is hardly expected to exceed half the usual yield.	
Rajshahye Divn. 15	Pubna ..	„ 1st	0·03	Seasonable, fine, and clear.	Some rain wanted, but on the whole the winter crops are all doing well. Some are being cut.	
Cooch Behar Divn. 16	Darjeeling ..	„ 1st	0·25	High winds ...	The crops are all very young, and are said to be doing well.	
Cooch Behar Divn. 17	Julpigoree ..	...	...	.....	.....	Return not received.
Cooch Behar Divn.	Cooch Behar ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Fine. ...	Gathering of mustard seed nearly over. Tobacco and wheat promise to be moderately good, but rain is wanted.	
	Eastern Districts.					
Dacca Division. 18	Dacca ...	„ 4th*	Nil	Weather fair and dry	Prospects of crops fair; rain much wanted in every part of the district.	
Dacca Division. 19	Furreedpore ..	„ 1st	1·40	A shower of rain on Sunday, and slightly cloudy the following day. Clear sunshine the rest of the week.	The rubee crops are very poor, and in some places dried up. The rain too partial to have done much good. In the jurisdiction of the station of Furreedpore, in which only the rain has fallen, some good will be done to the rubee crops; the other parts are suffering from want of rain.	
Dacca Division. 20	Backergunge ...	1st	·14	Warmer than before	Paddy harvest over and sugarcane harvest progressing.	
Dacca Division. 21	Mymensing ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Cloudy and rather cooler than last week. A little rain in the north-west of the district.	Land is being ploughed for rice cultivation; a little rain would be beneficial.	
Dacca Division. 22	Sylhet ..	Feb. 22nd	Nil.	Hottish for this season; cloudy on the 22nd.	The state of the crops is the same as last week; boro crops promising.	
Dacca Division. 23	Cachar ...	„ 22nd	0·09	Dull and sultry, but has begun to rain this morning, and it looks that the week shall be a wet one.	A little tea has been made in south Hylakandy.	
Chittagong Divn. 24	Chittagong ..	„ 22nd	Nil.	Fine and dry; getting perceptibly hot.	Rain wanted for the cold weather crops.	
Chittagong Divn. 25	Noakhally ..	„ 22nd	Nil.	Weather much hotter than the past week. Sky hazy during the day, nights partially foggy. Agreeable south winds.	Cold weather crops good. A shower of rain would do much good.	
Chittagong Divn. 26	Tipperah ...	...	...	.....	.....	Return not received.
Chittagong Divn. 27	Chittagong Hill Tracts	„ 22nd	Nil.	Temperature increasing daily.	The gathering of mustard is nearly over.	
Chittagong Divn.	Hill Tipperah ...	„ 22nd	·07	Getting warmer. A few drops of rain on the last day of the week.	No change to report. Chillies doing well.	

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No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BEHAR		1873.				
Patna Division. 28	Patna ...	Mar. 4th*	Nil.	The weather was fine up to the night of the 3rd March, when it rained slightly, but with heavy thunder and lightning. Probably heavy rain somewhere near.	Crops being reaped, as also opium, which promises well.	Health of the district generally good, but small-pox has shown itself in some few places.
29	Gya ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Fine, but inclined to be stormy in the east.	The rubee crop is promising.	
30	Shahabad ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Weather fair with west wind.	No change since last week. The rubee harvest is going on.	
31	Tirhoot ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Fair; west winds ...	The rubee crops continue well; barley and oats are in ear; the tobacco crop is being cut. West winds are not favorable to indigo prospects. Rain is wanted in some places.	
32	Sarún ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Weather fair and is getting warm; wind east and west.	Crops are fair on the whole. The poppy is in flower. Indigo is being put in the ground.	
33	Chumparun ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Fair, west winds, mornings cold and days warm.	The prospects of the rubee is very fair towards the eastern part of the district, but in other parts it is not so. The probable outturn may be estimated at below ¾ of the average of favorable years.	
Bhaugulpore Divn. 34	Monghyr ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Bright and warm, west winds set in strongly on the 8th February.	Wheat, gram, and ruhur on the ground still; the wheat is being reaped; all the other food crops reaped. Harvest north of river Ganges unusually fine, and that on the south very good.	
35	Bhaugulpore ...	„ 4th*	Nil.	Rain fell to the south of the district, but in some places to the north it is still wanted.	Crops generally good.	
36	Purneah ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Much warmer ...	The rubee crop is promising, but a little rain is wanted. Ploughing for the bhadoe crop has begun.	
37	Sonthal Pergunnahs...	„ 1st	Nil.	Weather getting cool again; a few drops of rain in places.	No change since last week.	
ORISSA.						
Orissa Divn. 38	Cuttack ...	„ 4th*	Nil	Weather cool ...	Crops flourishing.	
39	Pooree ...	Feb. 22nd	Nil.	Fine. No rain ...	Moog, gaba, and kolthee, doing well.	Cases of cholera still occur.
40	Balasore ...	Mar. 1st	Nil.	Hot and dry with high winds.	No crops on the ground ...	Cholera very prevalent.
CHOTA NAGPORE.						
	South-West Frontier Agency.					
41	Hazareebaugh ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Seasonable; hot west winds becoming prevalent.	No change to report. The cold weather crops being rapidly got in.	

* Telegram of the 4th March received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
CHOTA NAGPORE.—(*Contd.*)						
	South-West Frontier Agency.—(*Contd.*)	1873.				
42	Lohardaggah ...	Mar. 1st	Nil.	Hot up to the 27th, when there was a sudden change again to cold, but no rain	Fair reports of the rubee crops.	
43	Singbhoom ...	Feb. 22nd	Nil.	Seasonable. The weather was perceptibly getting warmer, but during the week it has been unusually cold.	Favorable.	
44	Maunbhoom ...	Mar. 1st	Nil.	Fair with high winds	The outturn of the rubee crops, which have all been gathered in but gram, has been favorable.	A few cases of sporadic cholera have been reported.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.						
45	Goalparah ...	Feb. 22nd	Nil.	Weather is generally clear and dry, but occasionally cloudy.	Fields being prepared for asu crop. Outturn of sugar is fair.	Small-pox is on the decrease.
46	Kamroop ...	Mar. 3rd*	Nil.	Weather getting warmer again; mornings still cloudy.	Mustard crop almost gathered. Aus land being broken up. Sugarcane being cut; pulses promise well.	Public health good.
47	Durrung ...	Feb. 22nd	Nil.	Temperature much higher than last week; little variable breeze.	No crops at present on the ground.	
48	Nowgong ...	„ 22nd	A slight sprinkling of rain on night of 21st February.	Cloudy evenings since the last three days; mornings pleasant.	Ahu land being ploughed. Sugarcane complete. Tea good.	
49	Seebsaugor ...	„ 22nd	0·69	Weather cool with mornings generally foggy and evenings fair. A pretty heavy shower of rain during the week.	Satisfactory ...	Cholera decreasing.
50	Luckimpore ...	„ 22nd	2·12	Weather unusually warm during the first five days of the week. On Friday rain set in, and cooled the atmosphere.	State of the crops good. Ploughing for ahu dhan going on everywhere.	General health of the district very good.
51	Naga Hills ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Clear and fine, but getting a little warm to what it was ten days ago.	Hill men still busy cutting their jooms.	
52	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	„ 22nd	Nil.	Cloudy, with a little rain.	There are no crops on the ground at present.	
53	Garo Hills ...	„ 22nd	0·04	Atmosphere very hazy; strong winds during the last few days. There was a good shower of rain on the night of the 21st and morning of the 22nd February.	The crops are all gathered now, and the people are engaged in clearing fresh jooms, which work is nearly completed. The rains will do much good.	

* Telegram of the 3rd March received on the 4th.

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA,
The 4th March 1873.

H. J. S. COTTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 9th to 15th Feb. 1873.	Rain from 16th to 22nd Feb. 1873.	Rain from 1st January 1873.		Remarks.
					Inches.	Up to date.	
BENGAL.			Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1873.	
	Western Districts.						
Burdwan.	Burdwan	Burdwan	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	22nd Feb.	
		Cutwa	ditto	0·10	0·10	ditto.	
		Culna	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Bood-Bood	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Raneegunge	ditto	0·05	0·15	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
	Bancoorah	Bancoorah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Beerbhoom	Sooree	ditto	ditto	0·02	ditto.	
	Midnapore	Midnapore	ditto	ditto	0·18	ditto.	
		Tumlook	ditto	ditto	0·50	ditto.	
		Gurbetta	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Contai ... Dy. Collr.'s Office	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	Not received, 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
		Contai ... Exe. Engr.'s Office	Not rec.	Not rec.	ditto	4th Jan.	
	Hooghly	Hooghly	Nil.	Nil.	ditto	22nd Feb.	
		Serampore	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
	Howrah	Howrah	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
	Central Districts.						
Presidency.	24-Pergunnahs	Saugor Island	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Calcutta	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Alipore... Dispensary	ditto	ditto	0·10	ditto.	
		Alipore... Jail	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Busseerhaut	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Baraset	ditto	0·02	0·02	ditto.	
		Diamond Harbour	ditto	Nil.	0·45	ditto.	
		Barripore	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Satkherah	ditto	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
		Barrackpore	ditto	ditto	0·07	ditto.	
		Dum-Dum	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Nuddea	Kishnaghur	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Bongong	ditto	Not rec.	0·11	15th Feb.	
		Meherpore	ditto	0·25	0·25	22nd Feb.	
		Chooadangah	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Kooshtea	ditto	0·06	0·30	ditto.	
		Ranaghat	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
	Jessore	Jessore	ditto	0·04	0·20	ditto.	
		Nurail	ditto	0·90	1·70	ditto.	
		Khoolneah	ditto	0·30	0·30	ditto.	
		Jenidah	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Bagirhaut	ditto	Not rec.	ditto	15th Feb.	Not received, 19th to 25th January
		Magoorah	ditto	Nil.	ditto	22nd Feb.	
Rajshahye.	Moorshedabad	Berhampore	ditto	0·01	0·21	ditto	
		Ramporehaut	Not rec.	Not rec.	Nil.	8th Feb.	
		City Moorshedabad	Nil.	Nil.	0·25	22nd Feb.	
		Jungipore	ditto	0·04	0·87	ditto.	
		Azimgunge	ditto	Nil.	0·33	ditto.	
	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	ditto	0·28	0·78	ditto.	
	Maldah	Maldah	ditto	Nil.	0·45	ditto.	
	Rajshahye	Beauleah	ditto	ditto	0·63	ditto.	
		Nattore	ditto	ditto	0·51	ditto.	
	Rungpore	Rungpore	ditto	0·24	0·29	ditto.	
		Bhowanigunge	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Titalya	ditto	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
	Bograh	Bograh	ditto	0·12	0·34	ditto.	
	Pubna	Pubna	ditto	0·03	0·17	ditto.	
		Serajgunge	ditto	0·10	0·57	ditto.	Not received, 2nd to 8th February
Cooch Behar.	Darjeeling	Darjeeling Telegraph Office	Not rec.	Not rec.	Nil.	15th Jan.	
		Darjeeling Hospital	Nil.	Nil.	0·02	22nd Feb.	
	Julpigoree	Julpigoree	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
		Fallacotta	ditto	ditto	0·14	ditto.	
		Boda	ditto	0·50	0·50	ditto.	
	Cooch Behar Tributary State	Cooch Behar	ditto	Nil	Nil.	ditto.	
	Bhútan Dooars	Buxa	ditto	0·20	0·64	ditto.	
	Eastern Districts.						
Dacca.	Dacca	Dacca Telegraph Office	ditto	0·12	0·12	ditto.	
		Dacca Hospital	ditto	0·05	0·05	ditto.	
		Moonshegunge	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
	Furreedpore	Manickgunge	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Furreedpore	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Goalundo	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Backergunge	Burrisaul	ditto	ditto	0·39	ditto.	
		Perozepore	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Madaripore	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
		Patoakhally	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	Not received, 19th to 25th Jan.
		Dowlat Khan	ditto	ditto	0·22	ditto.	
	Mymensing	Mymensing	ditto	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
		Jamalpore	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Atteah	ditto	0·01	0·25	ditto.	
		Kishoregunge	ditto	0·06	0·36	ditto.	
	Sylhet	Sylhet	ditto	Nil.	0·83	ditto.	
	Cachar	Cachar	ditto	0·69	1·27	22nd Feb.	
		Hylakandy	Not rec.	Not rec.	1·01	8th Feb.	Not received, 5th to 11th Jan., and 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
		Koyah	Nil.	ditto	0·66	15th Feb.	
Chittagong.	Chittagong	Chittagong Telegraph Office	ditto	Nil.	0·20	22nd Feb.	
		Chittagong Jail	ditto	ditto	0·35	ditto.	
		Cox's Bazar	ditto	Not rec.	0·90	15th Feb.	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Rungamutee Hill	ditto	Nil.	0·40	22nd Feb.	
	Noakhally	Noakhally	ditto	ditto	0·01	ditto.	
	Tipperah	Comillah	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Brahmanbariah	ditto	0·17	1·14	ditto.	
	Hill Tipperah	Hill Tipperah	ditto	0·07	0·36	ditto.	

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 9th to 15th February 1873.	Rain from 16th to 22nd Feb. 1873.	Rain from 1st January 1873. Inches.	Rain from 1st January 1873. Up to date.	Remarks.
	BEHAR.		Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1873.	
Patna.	Patna	Patna	Nil.	Not rec.	0·21	15th Feb.	
		Behar	ditto	Nil.	0·55	22nd Feb.	
		Barh	ditto	Not rec.	0·16	15th Feb.	
		Dinapore—Jail	ditto	Nil.	0·21	22nd Feb.	
		Dinapore—Cantonment	ditto	Not rec.	Nil.	15th Feb.	
	Gya	Gya	ditto	Nil.	0·17	22nd Feb.	
		Nowadah	ditto	ditto	6·32	ditto.	
		Aurungabad	ditto	ditto	0·12	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	ditto	ditto	0·10	ditto.	
	Shahabad	Arrah	ditto	ditto	0·38	ditto.	
		Sasseram	ditto	ditto	0·11	ditto.	
		Buxar	ditto	ditto	0·50	ditto.	
		Bhubooah	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Tirhoot	Mozufferpore	ditto	ditto	2·20	ditto.	
		Durbangah	ditto	ditto	0·02	ditto	Not received, 1st to 4th January.
		Hajipore	ditto	ditto	0·15	ditto	Not received, 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
		Mudhubani	Not rec.	Not rec.	0·18	25th Jan.	
		Seetamaree	Nil.	Nil.	0·26	22nd Feb.	
		Tajpore	Not rec.	Not rec.	0·25	8th Feb.	Not received, 1st to 4th and 12th to 25th January.
	Saran	Chuprah	Nil.	Nil.	0·29	22nd Feb.	
		Sewan	0·04	ditto	0·40	ditto.	
	Chumparun	Moteehari	Nil.	ditto	0·90	ditto.	
		Bettiah	ditto	ditto	0·25	ditto.	
Bhaugulpore.	Monghyr	Monghyr	ditto	0·02	0·36	ditto.	
		Begoosera	ditto	Nil.	0·20	ditto	Not received, 5th to 11th January
		Jamooie	ditto	ditto	0·73	ditto.	
	Bhaugulpore	Bhaugulpore	ditto	ditto	0·40	ditto.	
		Soopool	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Mudheypoorah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Banka	ditto	ditto	0·70	ditto.	
	Purneah	Purneah	ditto	Not rec.	0·27	15th Feb.	
		Kishengunge	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Arrareah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	Deoghur	ditto	Nil.	0·29	22nd Feb.	
		Jamtara	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Rajmehal	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Pakour	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Nya-Doomka	ditto	ditto	0·26	ditto.	
		Godda	ditto	ditto	0·62	ditto.	
	GRISSA.						
Orissa.	Cuttack	Cuttack—Telegraph Office	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Cuttack—Hospital	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Jajipore	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Kendrapara	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Jugutsingpore	ditto	ditto	0·76	ditto.	
		False Point	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Pooree	Pooree	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Khoordah	ditto	ditto	0·08	ditto.	
	Balasore	Balasore	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Bhuddruck	ditto	ditto	ditto		
	Cuttack Tributary Mehals	Sambalpore	Not rec.	Not rec.	ditto	1st Feb.	
	CHOTA NAGPORE. SOUTH-WESTERN FRONTIER AGENCY.						
	Hazareebaugh	Hazareebaugh—Jail	Nil.	Nil.	ditto	22nd Feb.	
		Hazareebaugh—Dispensary	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Pachumba	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Lohardaggah	Ranchee	ditto	ditto	0·04	ditto.	
		Palamow	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Singbhoom	Chyebassa	ditto	ditto	0·19	ditto.	
	Maunbhoom	Purulia	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Gobindpore	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	Not received, 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
	ASSAM & ADJACENT HILLS.						
	Goalparah	Goalparah	ditto	Not rec.	ditto	15th Feb.	
		Dhoobree	ditto	ditto	ditto	.....	
	Kamroop	Gowhatty	ditto	0·53	0·64	22nd Feb.	
		Burpettah	ditto	Nil.	0·50	ditto.	
	Durrung	Tezpore	ditto	Not rec.	0·52	15th Feb.	
		Mungledye	ditto	ditto	0·33	ditto.	
	Nowgong	Nowgong	ditto	0·13	0·18	22nd Feb.	
	Seebsaugor	Seebsaugor	0·52	Not rec.	2·41	15th Feb.	
		Golaghat	0·13	ditto	0·80	ditto.	
		Jorehaut	0·55	ditto	2·41	ditto.	
		Nazeerah	Not rec.	ditto	.....	.....	
	Luckimpore	Debrooghur	0·22	ditto	1·75	15th Feb.	
		North Luckimpore	0·16	ditto	1·61	ditto.	
		Suddya	0·14	ditto	2·42	ditto.	
	Naga Hills	Samoogoodting	Not rec.	ditto	.....	.....	
	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	Shillong	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	15th Feb.	
		Jaowai	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Cherrapoonjee	ditto	ditto	0·25	ditto.	
	Garo Hills	Tura	ditto	0·04	0·47	22nd Feb.	
		Benares	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Akyab	ditto	ditto	0·89	ditto.	

CALCUTTA,
The 1st March 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 23rd February to 1st March 1873.

Stations.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	Barometer reduced to sea-level.	Thermometer. Dry.	Thermometer. Wet.	Humidity Sat. =100.	Wind. Direction	Wind. Velocity*	Rain.	Clouds.	Weather initials.
Calcutta.	Feb.											
	23rd	10	29·882	29·900	80·5	74·6	74	S by W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·726	29·744	90·6	70·2	31	N W	...	...	.....	b
	24th	10	29·807	29·825	79·0	66·6	59	W by N	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·686	29·704	91·0	70·0	31	W N W	...	...	.....	b
	25th	10	29·846	29·864	82·5	77·0	76	S S W	..	...	.....	b
		16	29·722	29·740	91·5	77·8	51	S	...	...	.....	b
	26th	10	29·851	29·869	83·0	76·0	71	W S W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·724	29·742	89·4	79·0	61	S	...	...	.....	b
	27th	10	29·837	29·855	82·0	73·0	63	S W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·703	29·721	92·4	77·3	48	S	..	...	.....	b
	28th	10	29·904	29·922	79·2	61·0	30	N N W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·781	29·799	86·5	64·0	23	W by N	..	...	.....	b
	March 1st	10	29·959	29·977	78·5	62·8	37	N E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·837	29·855	86·4	66·0	28	N W	..	...	.....	b
Saugor Island.	Feb. 23rd	10	29·911	29·917	82	72	59	W S W	8·1	...	.....	b
		16	29·743	29·749	83	76	71	S	12·5	...	.....	b
	24th	10	29·818	29·824	82	69	48	N N W	5·2	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·705	29·711	84	78	75	S S W	7·8	...	.....	b, m
	25th	10	29·869	29·875	82	76	74	S S W	5·2	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·759	29·765	84	78	75	S	11·8	...	.....	b, m
	26th	10	29·881	29·887	84	76	67	S W	21·1	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·756	29·762	84	75	64	S S W	21·7	...	.....	b, m
	27th	10	29·878	29·884	84	77	71	S S W	23·3	...	.....	b
		16	29·739	29·745	84	75	64	S W	18·1	...	C	b, m
	28th	10	29·919	29·920	81	64	34	N N W	9·8	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·785	29·791	86	62	18	N N W	7·0	...	.....	b, m
	March 1st	10	29·958	29·964	82	62	26	E	4·6	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·851	29·857	84	68	40	S W	5·6	...	.....	b, m
Chittagong.	Feb. 23rd	10	29·885	29·948	80	75	78	E N E	4·5	...	K	b, m
		16	29·724	29·817	82	73	63	W	8·1	...	.....	b
	24th	10	29·766	29·859	81	74	70	S	4·2	...	K	b, m
		16	29·668	29·761	82	75	70	S W	14·5	...	K	b
	25th	10	29·828	29·921	79	74	77	S S E	4·8	...	K, KS	b, m
		16	29·730	29·822	87	70	39	S	12·0	...	.....	b, m
	26th	10	29·845	29·938	81	74	70	S	5·3	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·764	29·856	83	75	67	S W	13·7	...	.....	b, m
	27th	10	29·832	29·924	83	73	60	S W	7·7	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·718	29·840	83	75	67	W S W	15·7	...	K	m, q
	28th	10	29·825	29·918	82	75	70	S	7·9	...	K	b, m
		16	29·726	29·817	83	76	71	S W	16·6	...	.....	b
	March 1st	10	29·872	29·965	81	72	62	W N W	5·3	...	K	b, m
		16	29·822	29·914	83	67	39	W S W	8·6	...	.....	b, m
Madras	Feb. 22nd	10	30·010	30·040	83	76	71	S E	6	...	.....	a
		16	29·890	29·920	84	76	67	S E by E	8	...	.....	b
	23rd	10	29·987	30·017	83	76	71	S by E	7	...	.....	a
		16	29·827	29·857	89	75	49	S S E	4	...	.....	b
	24th	10	29·899	29·929	85	76	64	S S E	7	...	.....	b
		16	29·775	29·805	86	76	61	S E by S	10	...	.....	b
	25th	10	29·924	29·954	82	74	66	S by E	9	...	.....	a
		16	29·812	29·842	86	69	38	S E by S	9	...	.....	b
	26th	10	29·959	29·989	84	70	46	S E by S	8	...	.....	b
		16	29·834	29·864	82	70	52	S E by S	10	...	.....	b
	27th	10	29·905	29·995	82	69	48	S S E	9	...	.....	b
		16	29·824	29·854	83	73	60	S E by S	9	...	.....	b
	28th	10	29·923	29·953	83	73	60	S E by S	6	...	.....	b
		16	29·791	29·821	83	73	60	S E by S	8	...	.....	b
Cuttack.	22nd	10	29·878	29·960	84	69	43	W S W	1·4	...	.....	b
		16	29·748	29·829	92	69	26	W	4·3	...	K, C	b
	23rd	10	29·845	29·927	87	69	36	W	2·4	...	.....	b
		16	29·676	29·757	95	69	21	E S E	0·5	...	.....	b
	24th	10	29·749	29·831	86	68	35	E S E	1·5	...	.....	b
		16	29·621	29·702	98	69	20	W S W	2·9	...	.....	b
	25th	10	29·790	29·872	86	73	51	W S W	1·7	...	.....	b
		16	29·685	29·746	92	74	39	S S W	8·9	...	.....	b
	26th	10	29·817	29·899	86	73	51	S W	4·8	...	.....	b
		16	29·685	29·766	91	73	39	S S W	1·0	...	.....	b
	27th	10	29·803	29·885	86	71	44	S W	4·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·665	29·746	92	71	31	S S W	8·4	...	S, C, K	
	28th	10	29·825	29·907	86	64	24	N E	4·7	...	.....	b
		16	29·695	29·776	92	66	19	N	4·6	...	.....	b
Akyab.	23rd	10	29·928	29·950	78	71	69	E	0·3	...	.....	b
		16	29·766	29·788	81	71	59	W	4·8	...	.....	b
	24th	10	29·855	29·877	77	70	68	N E	1·0	...	.....	b
		16	29·745	29·765	83	75	67	W N W	2·5	...	.....	b
	25th	10	29·912	29·934	79	71	65	N E	0·5	...	.....	b
		16	29·806	29·828	82	76	74	W S W	3·3	...	.....	b
	26th	10	29·940	29·962	75	72	85	E N E	1·0	...	.....	b
		16	29·826	29·848	82	75	70	W	5·1	...	.....	b
	27th	10	29·927	29·948	83	70	49	E	0·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·814	29·875	83	75	67	W	2·5	...	.....	b
	28th	10	29·912	29·934	79	75	82	N E	0·5	...	.....	b
		16	29·794	29·815	84	75	64	W	3·6	...	.....	b
	March 1st	10	29·927	29·949	82	75	70	N E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·814	29·836	82	75	70	W	3·5	...	.....	b

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 1st March 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 22nd to 28th February 1873.

Month.	Date.	Mean reduced barometer.	Thermometer.			Mean dry bulb.	Mean wet bulb.	Computed mean dew-point.	Mean degree of humidity.	Wind.			Rain.	Moon's phases.	General Remarks.
			Highest reading.	Lowest reading.	Max. solar radiation.					Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.			
		Inches.	○	○	○	○	○	○			lb	Miles	In.		
Feb. ...	22nd	29·869	88·3	69·5	141·0	78·2	70·7	65·4	0·66	W & S S W	...	56·8	...	...	Clear and Cirrocumuli.
	23rd	·805	90·6	73·3	142·2	79·7	72·4	67·3	·67	S S W	..	107·6	...	...	Chiefly clear. Foggy at 6 A.M.
	24th	·745	91·3	69·0	145·0	79·3	70·5	64·3	·62	W by N & W by S	...	119·2	...	...	Clear. Foggy from 3 to 7 A.M.
	25th	·767	92·5	72·0	144·0	80·6	74·6	70·4	·72	S	...	102·7	...	...	Chiefly clear.
	26th	·772	92·4	71·7	145·0	80·4	73·2	68·2	·68	S, S W & S S W	0·8	183·5	...	...	Clear.
	27th	·761	93·5	73·0	141·5	81·3	72·8	66·8	·63	S W & S by W	0·8	252·2	...	●	Clear.
	28th	·808	86·7	69·0	138·0	77·6	64·9	56·0	·49	N by W & W by N	...	199·7	...	...	Clear.

The mean barometer as likewise the dry and wet bulb thermometer means are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column 10 represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	⊖ 24·5
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	93·5
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	89·7
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0·64
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0·65
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 22nd to 28th ... by lower rain gauge	...	Nil.
The total fall of rain from 22nd to 28th ... by anemometer gauge	...	Nil.
Ditto ditto ditto average of nineteen previous years	...	0·14
Ditto ditto between the 1st January and the 28th February	...	Nil.
Ditto ditto ditto ditto, average of nineteen previous years	...	1·37

GOPEENAUTH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

The 1st March 1873.

Abstract of the Results of the Hourly Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, in the month of January 1873.

LATITUDE 22° 33′ 1″ north. Longitude 88° 20′ 34″ east. Height of the cistern of the standard barometer above the sea-level, 18·11 feet.

MONTHLY RESULTS.	
	Inches.
Mean height of the barometer for the month	29·962
Max. height of the barometer occurred at 10 A.M. on the 21st	30·160
Min. height of the barometer occurred at 5 P.M. on the 6th	29·801
Extreme range of the barometer during the month	0·359
Mean of the daily max. pressures	30·038
Ditto ditto min. ditto	29·903
Mean daily range of the barometer during the month	0·135
	⊖
Mean dry bulb thermometer for the month	68·0
Max. temperature occurred at 3 P.M. on the 7th	84·0
Min. temperature occurred at 5, 6 & 7 A.M. on the 12th	53·0
Extreme range of the temperature during the month	31·0
Mean of the daily max. temperature	77·9
Ditto ditto min. ditto	60·1
Mean daily range of the temperature during the month	17·8
Mean wet bulb thermometer for the month	61·8
Mean dry bulb thermometer above mean wet bulb thermometer	6·2
Computed mean dew-point for the month	56·8
Mean dry bulb thermometer above computed mean dew-point	11·2
	Inches.
Mean elastic force of vapour for the month	0·470
	Troy grain.
Mean weight of vapour for the month	5·19
Additional weight of vapour required for complete saturation	2·34
Mean degree of humidity for the month, complete saturation being unity ...	0·69
Mean max. solar radiation thermometer for the month	128·8
	Inches.
Rained No. days,—max. fall of rain during 24 hours	Nil
Total amount of rain during the month	Nil
Total amount of rain indicated by the gauge* attached to the anemometer during the month	Nil
Prevailing direction of the wind	NW & NNW.

* Height 70 feet 10 inches above ground.

GOPEENAUTH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

The 28th February 1873.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 22nd February 1873, on 28 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.			Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.			Total receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	8,816	1,317 0 0	131 14 0	15,925 0	480 0 0	48 0 0	179 14 0
Or per mile of railway	315	47 0 0	4 14 0	569 0	17 0 0	1 14 0	6 8 0
For previous 7 weeks of half-year	59,933	8,713 0 0	871 6 0	108,138 0	3,534 0 0	353 8 0	1,224 14 0
Total for 8 weeks	68,749	10,030 0 0	1,003 0 0	124,063 0	4,014 0 0	401 8 0	1,404 8 0
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	8,016	1,172 12 6	117 5 7	17,604 20	664 6 3	66 8 9	183 14 4
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	286	41 14 2	4 3 9	629 0	23 11 8	2 7 6	6 11 3
Total to corresponding date of previous year	67,097½	9,404 8 0	940 9 0	128,584 0	3,707 15 9	370 16 0	1,311 5 0

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 22nd February 1873, on 1,280 miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	120,830	1,92,847 2 11	17,677 13 2	824,913 30	4,23,793 8 3	38,847 14 10	56,525 8 0
Or per mile of railway	.....	150 10 7	13 16 3	.....	331 1 5	30 7 0	44 3 3
For previous 7 weeks of half-year...	692,440	10,64,199 11 7	97,551 12 10	5,043,009 10	25,83,198 1 0	236,793 3 1	334,344 15 11
Total for 8 weeks	813,270	12,57,046 14 6	115,229 6 0	5,867,923 0	30,06,991 9 3	275,640 17 11	390,870 3 1
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	113,226	1,64,767 12 10	15,103 14 4	814,595 10	4,69,724 4 3	43,058 1 1	58,161 15 5
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	128 11 7	11 16 0	.....	366 15 7	33 12 9	45 8 9
Total to corresponding date of previous year	811,285	12,52,275 15 2	114,791 19 3	6,029,357 30	37,37,259 10 6	342,582 2 8	457,374 1 11

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 22nd February 1873, on 223⅓ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	5,650	22,067 3 1	2,022 16 6	74,258 20	26,763 10 0	1,903 6 8	3,926 3 2
Or per mile of railway	.....	98 11 9	9 1 0	.....	92 14 5	8 10 4	17 11 4
For previous 7 weeks of half-year...	33,201	1,05,057 13 7	9,630 6 1	457,056 0	1,47,185 14 9	13,492 0 10	23,122 6 11
Total for 8 weeks	38,851	1,27,125 0 8	11,653 2 7	5,31,314 20	1,67,949 8 9	15,395 7 6	27,048 10 1
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year...	4,308	20,946 13 4	1,920 2 6	67,760 20	18,702 3 4	1,714 7 5	3,634 9 11
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	93 14 11	8 12 3	.....	83 13 10	7 13 9	16 6 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year	42,018	1,37,350 14 1	12,590 9 11	590,104 0	1,53,679 11 6	14,087 6 2	26,677 16 1

NALHATI STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 22nd February 1873, on 27¼ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	1,985	1,402 0 0	140 4 0	7,441 0	571 0 0	57 2 0	197 6 0
Or per mile of railway	73	51 0 0	5 2 0	273 0	21 0 0	2 2 0	7 4 0
For previous 7 weeks of half-year...	10,238½	7,469 0 0	746 18 0	38,536 0	3,247 0 0	324 14 0	1,071 12 0
Total for 8 weeks ...	12,243½	8,871 0 0	887 2 0	45,997 0	3,818 0 0	381 16 0	1,268 18 0
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

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[REGISTERED No. 29.]

No. 11 of 1873.

SUPPLEMENT TO
The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1873.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE *may receive the* SUPPLEMENT *separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.*

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ABBREVIATED ADDRESSES FOR TELEGRAPH MESSAGES.

No. 92T., dated Fort William, the 4th February 1873.

From—Captain G. T. SKIPWITH, R.E., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department,

To—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL R. MURRAY, R.E., Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs in India.

IN reply to your letter No. 432, dated 22nd instant, in which you propose to adopt certain abbreviated addresses in transmitting service telegrams within Indian limits, I am directed to convey the approval of the Governor-General in Council to the plan proposed, leaving it in your hands to be worked out.

2. You should place yourself in direct communication with the officers concerned regarding the arrangement of details, &c.

No. 93-98T.

COPY, together with copy of the letter and enclosure to which it is a reply, forwarded to the departments marginally noted for information and guidance.

Financial Department.	Military Department.
Foreign ,,	Legislative ,,
Home ,,	Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce Department.

No. 432, dated the 22nd January 1873.

From—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL R. MURRAY, R.E., Officiating Director-General of Telegraphs in India,

To—COLONEL C. H. DICKENS, R.A., Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department.

IN your No. 335T of the 17th August 1871, the use of a cypher word was sanctioned in the addresses of telegrams to England, &c., in place of the lengthy official titles of the sender and addressee.

2. I have now the honor to represent that much unnecessary labor is entailed on this department in transmitting the full official addresses in service telegrams within Indian limits, and request the authority of the Government of India to adopt generally the Code

names already sanctioned, as well as to add to them those mentioned in the annexed list (annexure A).

3. Subject to your concurrence in the advantages of this proposal, I solicit that the several departments and local Governments may be instructed to adopt the Code names in drafting official telegrams, and that the officers of this department may be authorized to codify the address of any service telegram tendered in its unabbreviated state.

4. In the case of telegrams sent out for delivery, the terminal station will endorse the full designation of the addressee of the message envelope.

5. The departmental, official, and general abbreviations in complete form are shown in the annexed extract (annexure B) from a Code of instructions now under preparation in this office.

A.

ALREADY SANCTIONED.

Viceroy	Viceroy.
Governor of Madras or Bombay	Governor.
Grand Master, Star of India	Star.
Commander-in-Chief, India	Chief.
„ „ Madras or Bombay	Army.
Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, North-Western Provinces, or Punjab	Lt. Govr.
Secretary to Government of India, Financial Department	Financial.
„ „ Foreign „	Foreign.
„ „ Home „	Home.
„ „ P. Works „	Works.
„ „ Military „	Military.
„ „ Dept. of Agriculture, &c.	Commerce.
Secretary to Government of Bengal	Bengal.
„ „ Madras	Madras.
„ „ Bombay	Bombay.
Resident Transport Officer „	Transport.
„ „ in Egypt	Transport.
Resident at Aden	Aden.
Political Resident, Persian Gulf	Resident.

ADDITIONS PROPOSED.

Accountant-General, Public Works Department	Accts. Work.
Adjutant-General of the Army	Adjt. Gl.
Collector of Customs	Customs.
Commissary of Ordnance	Arsenal.
Chief Commissioner	Chf. Commr.
Commissioner	Commr.
Commissary-General	Commy. Gl.
Commissariat	Commt.
Compiler of Postal Accounts	Accts. Post.
Comptroller-General	Accts. India.
Controller of Military Expenditure	Controller, Military.
„ of Public Works Accounts	Cr. Works.
Director-General of the Post Office	D. G. Post.
District Superintendent of Police	S. Police.
Executive Engineer	Ex. Engr.
Head Commissioner, Paper Currency	Currency.
Inspector-General of Jails	Jails.
„ of Police	Police.
„ of Ordnance	Ordnance.
„ of Hospitals, British Troops	Hospitals, British.
„ of „ Indian Medical Service	„ Indian.
Master Attendant	Marine.
Military Secretary to Viceroy	M. G. Gl.
Officer in charge of Treasury	Treasury.
Political Agent / Agent to the Governor-General	Agent.
Postmaster	Post.
„ General	Post Genl.
Private Secretary to Viceroy	P. G. G.
„ „ to Governor of Madras or Bombay, or Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, North-Western Provinces, or the Punjab	P. S.
Quartermaster-General of the Army	Q. M. G.
Assistant	Asst.
Deputy	Dy.
Head	Hd.
Officiating	Offg.

THE BETHUNE SCHOOL

RESOLUTION.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

EDUCATION.

Calcutta, the 7th March 1873.

READ again—

The proceedings in this department for the month of July 1872, Nos. 34-35, sanctioning a revised scale of establishment for the Bethune School at a cost, including a first mistress on Rs. 150 per mensem, of Rs. 500 per mensem, with the proviso that Government would make a further grant equal to any sum contributed by native gentlemen up to Rs. 200 per mensem, to provide for a lady superintendent and any other establishment that may be required.

Read again—

Proceedings for August 1872, Nos. 7-8, authorising the investment of two sums aggregating Rs. 1,562-11-6, being the balance of a donation and subscriptions to the school, which are henceforward to be retained on permanent capital, and the interest accruing thereon reckoned as subscriptions towards meeting the grant-in-aid.

Read again—

Proceedings for August 1872, Nos. 9-11, and November 1872, Nos. 146-148, sanctioning special grants in order to make the salary of the lady superintendent of the school up to Rs. 300 and Rs. 250 during May and June 1872, respectively; and calling upon the Director of Public Instruction for a report as to the amount subscribed by native gentlemen towards the support of the school.

Read—

	Rs.	
Baboo Joykissen Mookerjee	5	per month.
The late Baboo Sham Churn Mullick...	25	„
Mr. W. C. Bannerjee, *Barrister-at-Law*	5	„
Mr. Man Mohan Ghose, *Barrister-at-Law*	5	„
The Hon'ble Baboo Degumber Mitter	3	„
Baboo Rai Behari Bose	2	„
Baboo Gour Dass Bysack...	2	„
Baboo Bhyrub Chunder Mookerjee	2	„
Total ...	49	„

Report called for above from Mr. Woodrow, Inspector of Schools, giving a list of subscribers as per margin.

Read—

List of donations collected by Rajah Kali Krishna, Bahadoor, which is here subjoined :—

	Rs.
Baboo Poolin Behari Sen of Berhampore	25
His Highness the Maharajah of Pattialla	500
Baboo Mohima Runjun Roy Chowdry of Kakinia ...	100
Baboo Radhanath Haldar of Sobha Bazar	10
Moha Rajkoomar Hurrendrakissore, Bahadoor, of Battia	50
His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore	300
Rajcoomar Rama Bormo, Bahadoor, of Travancore ...	100
Baboos Romoni Mohun Roy Chowdry and Ununge Mohun Roy Chowdry, zemindars of Toosh Bhandar...	50
Baboo Sylendragiree Sunnyasee, zemindar of Mahigunge	25
Baboo Gireedharyloll Roy, zemindar of Tezhat ...	25
Baboo Gopalpersaud Bose of Dewan Tooli	20
Baboo Satischunder Roy Chowdry, zemindar of Koondee, Gopalpore	20
Baboo Ramdoss Sein of Moorshedabad	25
Ranee Sham Mohini of Dinagepore	200
Rajah Kali Krishna Deva, Bahadoor	50
Baboo Prosono Coomar Ghose of Bow Bazar	15
Sremuttee Kristo Soonderi of Bhaugulpore, Champanagore	50
Baboo Jogindranarain Chowdry of Rungpore ...	15
Baboo Janookee Bullub Sein of Rungpore	25
	1,605
Deduct to be paid for printing circulars and post labels	10
TOTAL ...	1,595
To the above must be added the Ranee Surnomai's donation	1,000
Baboo Monylal Mullick, through Mrs. Brietzcke ...	20
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,625

Read—

Demi-official letter from Mrs. Brietzcke, dated 28th January, applying for leave for six months, of which three months to be privilege and the other three months' leave without pay.

RESOLUTION.—From the above-mentioned papers it appears that the Government now gives Rs. 500 towards the support of the school, and that the Lieutenant-Governor promised to give Rs. 200 more if a similar sum were made up by native subscribers. At present the private income which the school enjoys is—

	Rs. per mensem.
Assured subscriptions about	50
School fees	80
Interest to accrue on invested donations, about	20
TOTAL ...	150

The Lieutenant-Governor considers that under the terms of the Government order the school fees cannot be reckoned as private subscriptions. But he would wish to concede this point to the school, and he accordingly increases the grant to the Bethune School by Rs. 150 a month with effect from the 1st September last; the extra grant will continue so long as the fee and other income of the school is maintained at not less than Rs. 150 a month.

2. The Bethune School appears at present to suffer from the absence of any committee or governing body, the former school committee having resigned some years ago. The Lieutenant-Governor has now asked the gentlemen named in the margin, who have taken interest in the school, to serve on a committee which shall have the entire control of the school, its establishment, its course of study, and its expenditure. It is the Lieutenant-Governor's impression that the scope and functions of a school to which Government contributes so largely might be considerably extended. The committee, who have been good enough to accept the nomination, will have to propose a fixed scale of establishment on the basis of a contribution of Rs. 650 a month from Government and Rs. 150 from fees and subscriptions. They will also have to consider Mrs. Brietzcke's application for leave; if they consider it should be granted, they will report the arrangements they would propose for the conduct of her duties during her absence. It will be convenient that the committee should make any references to Government that may be necessary through the Director of Public Instruction.

The Hon'ble J. B. Phear.
Rajah Kali Krishna, Bahadoor.
Mr. W. C. Bannerjee, *Barrister-at-Law.*
Mr. Manmohan Ghose, *Barrister-at-Law.*

3. The acknowledgments of Government are due to Rajah Kali Krishna, Bahadoor, for his efforts in collecting donations for the school; but the Lieutenant-Governor would have been glad if the list of subscribers had contained more names of the wealthy native gentlemen of Calcutta, who have in other ways shown an interest in the school.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copies of this resolution be forwarded by separate letter to the gentlemen who have kindly consented to join the committee, that it be published in the Supplement to the *Calcutta Gazette*, and be also communicated to the Director of Public Instruction and Accountant-General for information.

RULES FOR DISTRICT COMMITTEES OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

No. 792, dated Fort William, the 24th February 1873.

From—W. S. ATKINSON, ESQ., M.A., Director of Public Instruction,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department.

WITH reference to your office No. 4068, dated 18th November 1872, I have the honor to forward herewith, for record, a copy of the rules, which have been approved by the Lieutenant-Governor, for the guidance of the District Committees of Public Instruction as constituted by the Government Resolution of the 30th September 1872.

The rules have been communicated to all Commissioners, Magistrates, and Inspectors of Schools.

Rules for the guidance of District Committees of Public Instruction, sanctioned by Government. Dated 1st February 1873.

IN REGULATION DISTRICTS.	IN NON-REGULATION DISTRICTS.
Commissioner—*President.*	Commissioner—*President.*
Magistrate—*Vice-President.*	Deputy Commissioner—*Vice-President.*
Joint-Magistrate.	Assistant Commissioner.
Inspector of Schools.	Inspector of Schools.
Principal of College or Head-master of High School, if any.	Principal of College or Head-master of High School, if any.
Deputy Inspector of Schools.	Deputy Inspector of Schools.

1. IN each district* the Committee of Public Instruction will be composed of the officers noted in the margin with any other official or non-official residents who may be appointed by Government on the nomination of the Commissioner.

2. The Secretary to the Committee will be appointed by Government upon the recommendation of the Commissioner.

3. All the Government schools in each district are placed under the supervision of the District Committee.

4. Grant-in-aid schools will be managed by their own Committees under the supervision of the Inspectors, but the grants to such schools will be made on the recommendation of the District Committee, the opinion of the Inspector being required on each several application and on the annual allotment of the district grant.

5. Patshalas and all other schools which receive grants otherwise than under the grant-in-aid rules will be under the control of the Magistrate of the district and the Sub-Divisional Officers assisted by the inspecting officers, and the grants to these schools will be allotted by the Magistrate with the advice of the Committee.

GOVERNMENT ZILLAH SCHOOLS.

6. The current business of the zillah school will be conducted by the Head-master under the general direction and control of the District Committee, and in accordance with the rules of the Department of Public Instruction.

7. The funds of the school will be administered by the Committee. They consist of annual income and funded property.

8. The income comprises (*a*) receipts from fees and fines; (*b*) donations and subscriptions; (*c*) interest of funded property; (*d*) the net grant from provincial revenues. All receipts must be paid into the treasury.

9. The expenditure will be under the control of the Committee, who will effect all payments by bills drawn upon the treasury. The bills will be drawn monthly or otherwise by the Head-master, and will be countersigned for payment by the Vice-President of the Committee. Sums not exceeding Rs. 100 at any one time may be drawn when required as advances for current expenditure by bills signed by the Vice-President and one other member of the Committee. The balance in favour of the school at the end of each year will be carried to the credit of the school for the following year.

10. The funded property of the school comprises such Government or other securities as the Committee may have been able to acquire; and no portion of such funded property may be expended without the sanction of Government, for which application must be made to the Director of Public Instruction through the Inspector.

Funds belonging to the school, when in the shape of Government or other securities, must be invested in the joint names of the Collector of the district and the Director of Public Instruction.

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* These rules do not apply to Calcutta.

11. A regular account of all sums credited and expended will be kept by the school, and an abstract of it in the form annexed marked (A), together with a list of all bills cashed during the quarter, must be forwarded by the Committee to the Inspector quarterly, that is to say, on the 1st day of the months of April, July, October, and January.

12. A register of daily attendance must be kept in the school, and an abstract of it will be forwarded to the Inspector at the end of each quarter in the form annexed marked (B).

13. A visitors' book will also be kept in the school, in which any member of the Committee can enter such remarks as he may think called for, and this book shall be open to the inspection of the masters, and shall be laid before each meeting of the Committee.

14. No pupil can be expelled without an order of the Committee recorded in writing.

15. Appointments to masterships with salaries of Rs. 50 and less than Rs. 200 a month will be made by the Committee on the nomination of the Inspector; but should the Inspector be unable to make any nomination satisfactory to the Committee, the matter will be referred to the Director for the decision of Government.

Appointments to masterships with salaries under Rs. 50 a month will be made by the Committee, who may call on the Inspector for his advice in making such appointments, and will keep him informed of all arrangements actually made.

Appointments to masterships with salaries of Rs. 200 a month and upwards will be made by Government and gazetted.

16. Leave of absence to masters holding appointments of Rs. 50 and less than Rs. 200 a month will be granted by the Committee with the concurrence of the Inspector.

Leave of absence to masters holding appointments of less than Rs. 50 a month will be granted by the Committee without previous reference to the Inspector.

All leave of absence granted by the Committee must be reported by them to the Accountant-General.

Leave of absence to masters holding gazetted appointments will be granted by Government on the recommendation of the Director.

17. The annual examination will be conducted by the Head-master (in November or December), under the orders of the Committee. He will examine all the classes and submit a report to the Committee, setting forth his opinion on the state of each class and his recommendations for class promotions.

The regular class promotions will take place annually at the commencement of the session, but the Committee may at any time promote a boy specially on the recommendation of the Head-master.

18. An annual report on the school will be prepared by the Committee, who will append thereto the Head-master's report *in extenso*, together with a capital account showing the amount and distribution of the funded property of the school, and all tabular statements that may be required from time to time by the Department of Public Instruction.

This report will be submitted to the Commissioner as part of the annual district report, a duplicate of which will be forwarded to the Inspector.

Government Normal Schools.

19. Government normal schools will be managed in the same way as Government Zillah Schools.

Government Vernacular Schools.

20. The current business of the vernacular school will be conducted by the Head-master under the general direction and control of the District Committee.

21. The funds of the school will be administered by the Committee. They consist of annual income and funded property.

22. The annual income comprises (*a*) receipts from fees and fines; (*b*) donations and subscriptions; (*c*) interest of funded property; (*d*) the net great from provincial revenues. All receipts must, as a general rule, be paid into the

local treasury, but in the case of distant schools the Committee may authorize the Head-master to retain the local receipts, and disburse them in part payment of the monthly charges, drawing the balance only from the treasury.

The balance in favour of the school at the end of each year will be carried to the credit of the school for the following year.

23. The funded property of the school comprises such Government or other securities as the Committee may be able to acquire for the school, and no portion of such funded property may be expended without the sanction of Government, for which application must be made to the Director through the Inspector.

Funds belonging to the school when in the shape of Government or other securities, must be invested in the joint names of the Collector of the district and the Director of Public Instruction.

24. The bills will be drawn for two months together by the Head-master, who will send them to the Deputy Inspector of the district, and the Deputy Inspector will pass the bills for payment under the orders of the Magistrate.

The bills will contain all establishment charges due respectively for the two months ending the 31st March, the 31st May, the 31st July, the 30th September, the 30th November, and the 31st January, and will be supported by corresponding accounts and returns. These accounts and returns, together with a list of the bills passed in respect of them, will be forwarded by the Deputy Inspector to the Inspector for final check and audit.

25. A register of daily attendance must be kept in the school, and an abstract of it will be forwarded to the Deputy Inspector at the end of every two months

26. A visitors' book must be kept in the school for the remarks of visitors. Every inspecting officer, when he visits the school, will make a note in this book.

27. The appointment of masters will be made as laid down for zillah Schools in paragraph 15.

Leave of absence to masters will be granted by the District Committee on applications submitted through the Sub or Deputy Inspector.

28. It will be the duty of the Head-master to furnish the Deputy Inspector of the district with all returns that may from time to time be prescribed, and the Deputy Inspector will submit them with his annual report for the information of the Committee.

Aided Schools.

29. A grant is assigned by Government annually to be expended in grants-in-aid to schools of the upper and middle class in each district. These grants will be distributed on the recommendation of the District Committee, who will in each case take the opinion of the Inspector of the Circle. The Committee's proposals for the distribution of the money will be submitted annually to the Director for the sanction of Government through the Inspector and the Commissioner.

When the grants-in-aid have been assigned to schools of these classes, the District Committee will not interfere in the management of the schools except in cases in which the local managers invite their assistance.

30. The Secretaries of aided schools will submit their bills and accounts every two months to the Deputy Inspector of the district, and the Deputy Inspector will countersign the bills for payment.

The two-monthly returns and accounts, together with a list of all bills passed in respect of them, will be forwarded by the Deputy Inspector to the Inspector for final check and audit.

Annual District Report.

31. The Committee will prepare an annual report on the operations of the year and the educational state of the district, and will append thereto the Deputy Inspector's report *in extenso* with complete statistical tables in the forms prescribed. This report will be submitted to the Commissioner of the Division and a copy will at the same time be forwarded to the Inspector of the Circle.

W. S. ATKINSON,
Director of Public Instruction.

A.

Abstract Account Current of the School for the Quarter ending the of 187 .

Credited.	Rs.	A.	P.	Debited.	Rs.	A.	P.
Assignment from Provincial Revenue for the quarter ..				Amount of establishment bills for the quarter			
Schooling fees realized during the quarter, as per Collector's receipt				Amount of contingent bills for the quarter			
Fines realized as per ditto ..				Cost of books supplied during the quarter			
				Prize allowance for three months, at Rs. a month			
*				†			
Total credited ..				Total debited ..			
Deduct debited ..							
Balance of the quarter ..							
Add balance from previous quarters							
Total balance at credit of the school							

* Here are to be entered also the proceeds of any donation, &c., or any other receipts from whatever sources.

† Here enter any other payments that have been made during the month.

B.

Abstract of Register of Attendance of the School, for the quarter ending the of 187 .

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			15			16			17			18			19			20
	Students on the roll.								Average daily attendance.			Amount of Fees and Fines due for the month.																			
					Analysis of Column 5.																										
Class.	Net total of last month.	Admitted during the month.	Quitted during the month.	Net total.	Scholar-ship-holders.	Free students not scholar-ship holders.	Pay students.	Rate of fee in each class.	No. present.	No. absent on leave.	No. absent without leave.	Monthly fees.	Entrance and re-admission fees.			Fines.			Unrealized balance from last month.			Total due.			Amount actually collected.			Balance as yet unrealized.			Remarks.
													Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
Total																														

This Return was forwarded of 187 .

RESOLUTION ON THE POLICE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1873-74.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Calcutta, the 10*th March* 1873.

READ—

The Accountant-General's letter No. 941C, dated 20th February, submitting the police budget estimates for the year 1873-74 with detailed explanations.

1. The main heads of the budget are as follows :—

	Actuals of 1871-72.	Sanctioned estimate of 1872-73.	Present estimate for 1873-74.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Presidency and suburban police ...	3,54,696	2,69,200	2,59,202
Provincial superintending officers ...	1,21,925	1,18,500	1,17,796
District police force	42,35,310	42,02,600	42,68,095
Frontier police	1,10,658	1,39,700	1,39,660
Government contribution to the railway police ...	28,194	28,600	29,773
Government contribution to municipal police	30,480	37,700	37,500
Total ...	51,21,604	47,96,400	48,52,026
Deduct receipts	5,07,928	26,000	78,200
	46,13,676	47,70,400	47,73,826

2. The reduction under Presidency and suburban police on the "actuals" of 1871-72 is only apparent, and is due to a change in the mode of showing the municipality's share of the suburban police. The reduction of Rs. 10,000 on the present year's budget is, however, real, and is due to the recent revision of the suburban police, which has caused a saving of Rs. 10,000 both to Government and to the municipality. The increase under the head of additional police force for guards at the Presidency is accepted, and the Accountant-General's estimates for this head of the budget may be passed.

3. The estimate for the Inspector-General, his deputies, and his office, is also passed. The local estimate for Rs. 2,390 on account of police clerks and contingencies for the office of the Commissioner of Assam is struck out pending such further report as the Commissioner of Assam may desire to make.

4. The Accountant-General's estimate for the district police officers, inspectors, and constables, is accepted, the increase under the head of "clerks and servants" being said to be due to ordinary progressive increases of salary. The increase from Rs. 3,66,500, the grant for the current year, to Rs. 4,87,457, the estimate for next year on account of "contingent charges" of the district police, is for the most part explained as follows :—

Rs. 57,700—is entered on both sides of the budget, but was omitted last year; this sum represents the share which policemen pay towards the cost of their uniform, Government paying the rest, namely Rs. 82,000.

Rs. 10,000—is entered for purchase of tents and accoutrements, whereas there has, during the last two years, been no grant under this head. The Lieutenant-Governor permits the grant to stand, as he believes that the police may want new supplies of these things; but the Inspector-General must be cautioned not to sanction expenditure against this grant without pressing and absolute necessity.

Rs. 11,000—on account of rewards to police or outsiders for special service showing signal detective skill or bravery. The grant for this purpose used to stand at Rs. 6,000, but this sum was found to be insufficient. The proposed grant may stand.

Rs. 2,000—on account of land to be taken up for police purposes. No expenditure of this kind has occurred before, and the item may be struck out of the estimates. If incurred at all, it will be included in the grant for buildings.

5. The estimate for petty repairs is put at Rs. 50,800, and a credit of Rs. 40,000 is asked for on account of new buildings. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees to the grant of a sum of—

Rs. 75,000—on account of repairs and minor police works.

Rs. 66,000—have been separately provided in the Public Works Department budget for larger police buildings.

The total grants for police repairs and works will thus amount to Rs. 1,41,000—for the year 1873-74.

6. The rest of the Accountant-General's estimate for the district police force may stand; the total deductions now ordered amount to Rs. 17,000;* but against these deductions must be set a further grant of Rs. 6,244 to meet the cost of extra police sanctioned by Government, as per the Inspector-General's supplementary budget of the 5th February 1873.

* Rs. 2,000 proposed for cost of land.
„ 15,000 „ „ new police buildings

7. To the proposed grant of Rs. 37,500 on account of municipal police to the towns marginally noted must be added a sum of Rs. 3,000 recently granted in aid of the Chittagong town police.

	Rs.
Howrah	10,990
Patna	26,510

8. A sum of Rs. 21,572 must be added to the cost of frontier police on account of the police required for the tracts in the Garo Hills, which have been brought under British control since the recent expedition of December 1872. The Government of India has been asked to grant an assignment to meet this extra charge, but meanwhile the item must be included in the Bengal police estimates.

9. The Accountant-General's estimate of the probable receipts for the year 1873-74 is accepted. The entry of the constables' subscription towards the cost of their clothing on both sides of the budget explains the excess above the current year's estimate in which this item was not shown on either side of the account.

10. The sanctioned grants for 1873-74 will then stand thus:—

	Rs.
Presidency and suburban police	2,59,200
Inspecting agency	1,17,800
District force	42,57,300
Frontier police	1,61,300
Government share of railway police	29,800
„ contribution to municipal police	40,500
Total ...	48,65,900
Add grants in the Public Works Department budget for police buildings	66,200
Grand total	49,32,100
Deduct receipts	78,200
Net cost of police	48,53,900

BOARDING-HOUSE FOR STUDENTS OF THE BERHAMPORE COLLEGE.

THE Lieutenant-Governor, at his recent visit to Berhampore, promised a grant of Rs. 6,000 to found a boarding house for the Berhampore College students, provided a corresponding sum were locally subscribed. He also gave a plot of land as a site.

The Lieutenant-Governor has now the pleasure of acknowledging the munificence of seven inhabitants of Moorshedabad, who have already subscribed for this purpose Rs. 7,152, as per list subjoined:—

	Rs.
Maharanee Sarnamoyi	3,000
Annada Prasad Ráy	1,500
Ráy Luchmiput Sing Bahadoor	1,000
Ráy Dhunput Sing Bahadoor	1,000
Baboo Hurruck Chund Nowbika	201
Baboo Budhu Sing Doodhooria	250
Ráy Meghraj Bahadoor	201
	7,152

APPOINTMENT OF JUNIOR CIVILIANS TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

No. 277J., dated the 6th March 1873.

From—A. MACKENZIE, ESQ., Junior Secretacy to the Government of Bengal,
To—The Inspector-General of Police.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter No. 29T of the 18th ultimo, and its enclosed memorial from certain officers of the Bengal Police, with reference to the Resolution of the 20th March 1872, and to the appointment of junior civilians to the police department.

2. In reply I am to say, for communication to the memorialists, that the Lieutenant-Governor cannot admit the claims of any body of public officers appointed in this country, to an absolutely exclusive monopoly of certain offices. Even Civil Servants brought by covenant from England, after open competition, and to whom certain offices were originally guaranteed, are now liable to have others put into these offices for special reasons. The gentlemen appointed in this country to particular branches of civil employment certainly never had any such guarantee. It would especially not be possible that officers in one branch should themselves hold a monopoly of that branch, and at the same time be eligible to appointments in other branches, which seems to be the claim of some of the officers of several branches of the Administration.

3. At the same time, feeling that the police officers have suffered from reductions, &c., the Lieutenant-Governor was, and is, especially anxious that they should not, on the whole, suffer from the practice which His Honor thinks advisable in the interests of the public service, viz. that officers in the different civil branches should be inter-changeable. The Lieutenant-Governor finds that in truth there is but one gentleman, not a permanent member of the police force, officiating as a District Superintendent, while two police officers of standing are officiating in better civil appointments, one as a Deputy Commissioner of the first class, and another as a first class Jail Superintendent. In the lower grades the advantage has been wholly on the side of the police officers; several of them having been employed in civil situations.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 8th March 1873.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.						
	Western Districts.	1873.				
Burdwan Divn. 1	Burdwan ...	Mar. 11th*		Rain with hailstone on Friday night. Weather fair.	Spring crops thriving well. Grain market unchanged.	Fever decreasing; cholera in sporadic form within Cutwa sub-division.
2	Bancoorah ...	„ 8th	5·49	Cold. Heavy showers of rain throughout the district.	Wheat, barley, and mustard, are almost ripe; a good outturn is expected. The heavy rains that have fallen will considerably benefit the cotton, and will make the paddy fields fit for ploughing.	
3	Beerbhoom ...	„ 8th	1·13	There have been some storms, with rain, and the temperature is much lower.	The crops are being reaped. The rain has benefited indigo prospects; but the mango crop has been much injured.	
4	Midnapore ...	„ 8th	·72	Cloudy, with several showers of rain, and much cooler.	The rain will be generally beneficial, especially to the indigo.	
5	Hooghly ...	„ 8th	·90	Clear, cloudy, hot, foggy mornings.	Crops all gathered. Last night's rain will greatly benefit the ploughing of the land for the ous crops, &c.	Fever greatly decreasing.
	Howrah ...	„ 8th	·07	First part of week clear, latter part cloudy; slight rain on the last two days.	More rain required, both for the crops on the ground and also for the preparation of lands for the spring sowing.	
	Central Districts.					
Presidency Divn. 6	24-Pergunnahs ...	„ 11th	1·20	Fair weather and warm for the first four days; partial showers of rain, and stormy, on the 6th and 7th. General fall of rain on the 8th, which has considerably lowered the temperature.	Outturn of cold weather crops, which have been gathered, is fair. More rain wanted for ploughing. Mangoes and other fruit trees in full blossom and promising.	Health good. Fever and a few cases of cholera reported in Satkhirah, and a few cases of the latter still occur in other parts of the district. In Diamond Harbour, where it has been worst, it is now diminishing.
7	Nuddea ...	„ 8th	1·15	Occasional storms and rain. The weather is now very cool for the time of the year.	The greater part of the crops has been now gathered. Operations have to some extent been suspended through the rains. The rain has been welcome for some reasons, but the only crop which has derived benefit is indigo.	
8	Jessore ...	„ 8th	·05	Squally ...	Good.	
Rajshahye Divn. 9	Moorshedabad ...	„ 8th	1·48	Cloudy, rainy, and cool. Rain on 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 7th instant.	The rain will do great good to indigo and mulberry, and the injury to other standing crops will be slight.	Cholera and small-pox still prevalent, but will probably be driven off by the change.
10	Dinagepore ...	„ 8th	·61	Windy—chiefly from south-west. Threatening rain constantly; occasionally raining in violent showers. Occasional distant lightning.	Good.	
11	Maldah ...	„ 8th	0·29	Cloudy; occasional drizzling rain, thunder and storm. Wind chiefly from south-east and north-east.	Wheat, barley, and other crops of the season are doing well. A 12-anna crop expected.	

* Telegram of the 11th March received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	REMARKS.
BENGAL—(*Contd.*)						
	Central Districts.—(Contd.)	1873.				
RAJSHAHYE DIVN.—(*Contd.*) 12	Rajshahye ..	Mar. 8th	1·49	Cloudy—off and on at first. A north-wester in the middle of the week. Subsequently the weather became wet, and occasionally stormy.	The rubee crops and ganja are still being reaped. The rain has been of great benefit. Prospects of indigo and mulberry favorable. Rice lands are now being prepared for the next crop.	
13	Rungpore ..	„ 8th	0·70	Cloudy, with rain ...	Good.	
14	Bograh ..	„ 8th	·44	Weather was fine during the greatest part of the week, but cold and slightly rainy since day before yesterday.	The yield of the sugarcane has been very good. Khesary pulse is not likely to come up to its usual yield. The state of the other cereals is not bad.	
15	Pubna ..	„ 8th	0·40	Cool and pleasant; some little rain on the 4th and 6th, and night of the 7th. It is still cloudy, and more rain is expected.	The little rain has done much good to the cold weather crops. In the Serajgunge sub-division some injury has been caused by insects, but on the whole they are doing well.	
COOCH BEHAR DIVN. 16	Darjeeling ..	„ 8th	1·01	Hail and a little snow; thunder and lightning at night; showers of rain occasionally.	Crops in the hills very young and doing well. No crops in the plains at present.	
17	Julpigoree ..	„ 8th	.75	In early part of week, mornings cold, midday and evenings hot, latter part of week cloudy, rain and cool weather.	Sursoo crop is very good Tobacco is good, but has suffered a little from want of rain. Ploughing commenced.	
	Cooch Behar ..	„ 8th	·01	Cool for this time of the year; thunder and rain on Friday night, and hail on the morning of Saturday, the 8th instant.	Tobacco crop has probably been damaged a little by the hail of the 8th instant. Cutting of tobacco crop has commenced. Other crops promising.	
	Eastern Districts.					
DACCA DIVISION. 18	Dacca ...	„ 11th*	0·5	Weather very cool for the season.	Safflower turning out better than expected, but crop small. Rest fair. More rain wanted.	
19	Furreedpore ..	„ 8th	Nil.	Winds variable during the week. Sky cloudy and norwesters at night but of no severity, accompanied by drizzling rain not appreciable by the gauge.	The rubee crops are being reaped. They have suffered from drought during the season. Rain now falling will injure those still on the ground, but will facilitate ploughing for the paddy crops of this year.	
20	Backergunge ..	...	...	.....	.....	Return not received.
21	Mymensing ...	„ 8th	0·16	Weather cloudy and very cool for the time of the year. More rain may be expected.	Prospects of the crops are favorable; but rain is still wanted, especially in the south of the district, where hardly any rain has fallen.	
22	Sylhet ..	„ 1st	1·67	Heavy showers during the week. Weather almost every day cloudy. On Thursday night there was a severe gale and hail storm at Guaineghat.	The late rain has done good to the boro crop, which promises well. At Jaintea the late rains have enabled the ryots to go on with their ploughings.	By the severe gale at Guaineghat every house in the bazar, and every police building except one, was blown down. Many persons are hurt—rather badly. No lives as yet reported to have been lost.
23	Cachar ..	„ 1st	2·27	Stormy, with rain; getting rather warm.	No crops on the ground.	

* Telegram of the 11th March received on the same day.

No	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL—(*Contd.*)						
	Eastern Districts.—(*Contd.*)	1873.				
Chittagong Divs. 24	Chittagong ...	Mar. 1st	Nil.	Cool and pleasant in the morning; getting daily warmer.	Prospects of winter crops generally fair; would be bettered by a little rain.	
25	Noakhally ...	„ 1st	Nil.	The sky was cloudy throughout the week, with high south wind in the afternoon. The temperature was hotter than in the past week, and there seemed every probability of rain, but on Friday a gentle west wind blew and banished all the clouds and lowered the temperature.	Moog, khasary, chillies, onions, &c., good, but rain very much wanted.	
26	Tipperah ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fair ...	Good. Rain wanted in parts of the district.	
27	Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	...	...	.....	.....	Return not received.
	Hill Tipperah ...	„ 1st	Nil.	Generally clear, but occasionally cloudy: south and south-east wind. Getting warmer every day.	There are no crops on the ground just now except chillies. Rain wanted for cultivation.	
BEHAR						
Patna Division. 28	Patna ...	„ 11th*	0·20	Weather fine and seasonable again, though pleasantly cool for the time of year.	The district officer is afraid that the rain will have done some damage to the crops both in the fields and in the thrashing floors, as also to the opium which was being collected.	Health of the district good.
29	Gya ...	„ 8th	0·94	Colder and cloudy and stormy, with rain.	Opium and rubee crops are progressing satisfactorily.	
30	Shahabad ...	„ 8th	·90	Cloudy, with rain; wind variable; appears to be clearing up.	The rain that has fallen this week has, it is feared, done damage to the rubee, both cut and uncut, and opium crops. Hail fell in many places also, and has done much harm. The extent of the injury is being inquired into.	Small-pox has broken out chiefly in the Buxar sub-division. Otherwise health of the district good.
31	Tirhoot ...	„ 8th	2·20	Cool and seasonable ...	There has been a fall of over 2 inches of rain this week, which appears to be general. On the 7th there was a fall of hail, which may do some slight injury to rubee and mango crops. The rain however will be a great benefit.	General health of the district good.
32	Sarun ...	„ 8th	1·70	The weather was characterized by heavy fall of rain, accompanied by storm, thunder, and lightning.	The rain has caused injury to the crops in general, specially poppy; the rohur crops stacked in the fields have also been damaged. The extent of damage is being inquired into.	
33	Chumparun ...	„ 8th	5·	Fair and cool; west winds; heavy storm of rain accompanied with hail fell yesterday.	The storm which occurred yesterday must have done injury to the rubee and poppy crops, but to what extent is not yet known.	

* Telegram of the 11th March received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BEHAR.—(*Contd.*)		1873.				
Bhaugulpore Divn. 34	Monghyr ..	Mar. 8th	0·66	Nor-wester on the 6th and 7th instant.	The recent rain has damaged the crops somewhat. The crops generally are pretty good.	
35	Bhaugulpore ..	„ 11th*	Nil.	Heavy rain fell in the neighbourhood of the sudder station.	Prospects of the crops generally good.	
36	Purneah ..	„ 8th	0·82	There has been a slight fall of rain, which has benefited the crops.	Most of the pulses have been gathered. Wheat and other rubee crops good.	
37	Southal Pergunnahs .	„ 8th	1·54	Storms of wind and rain on 4th, 5th, 7th, and 8th instant. That on Friday night was accompanied with much hail, and ·9 inches of rain was recorded.	Gram and wheat said to be good on the Rajmehal side, but accounts have not been received since the storm of Friday night.	
ORISSA.						
Orissa Divn. 38	Cuttack ..	„ 11th*	2·41	No rain at Jajpore; ·60 at Kendraparah; ·71 at Jugutsingpore.	Crops flourishing.	
39	Pooree ..	„ 1st	Nil.	South-west wind set in.	No change to be reported.	
40	Balasore ..	„ 8th	A slight shower on the 8th instant.	Cloudy and unsettled	No crops on the ground.	
CHOTA NAGPORE.						
	South-West Frontier Agency.					
41	Hazareebaugh ..	„ 8th	0·74	The first half of the week was cool and pleasant; the last three days were stormy, with slight showers.	The greater part of the wheat and barley having been cut, these crops have received no injury from the rain, which however has been beneficial to sugarcane. The high winds will injure the mohwah and poppy.	
42	Lohardduggah ..	„ 8th	1·27	Cloudy and damp; the rain seems to have been general.	The reports continue to be favorable.	
43	Singbhoom ..	„ 1st	Nil.	Seasonable ..	Favorable ..	District healthy.
44	Maunbhoom ...	„ 8th	0·89	Stormy and cool.	Nothing remains on the ground but gram, and that promises a good outturn.	No fresh cases of cholera reported.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.						
45	Goalparah ..	„ 1st	Nil.	First three days were partly cloudy and partly sunny; the latter part of the week fair and bright; strong westerly breeze.	Difficulty is felt in tilling lands for assoo crops owing to want of rain.	
46	Kamroop ...	„ 10th†	2·	The weather is cold again in the morning, and days pleasant.	Mustard and pulse crops have yielded a fair outturn. Sugarcane still being gathered, and land is being broken up for ous crop.	Public health good.
47	Durrung ...	„ 1st	0·59	Changeable; frequent thunder-storms, strong north-east wind and strong south-west wind alternating.	No crops on the ground.	Public health good.

* Telegram of the 11th March received on the same day.

† Telegram of the 10th March received on the 11th.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.—(*Contd.*)		1873.				
48	Nowgong ...	Mar. 1st	·80	Weather cool and pleasant, cloudy evenings. A severe hail-storm between 8 and 9 P.M. on 27th February.	Tea pruning. Ahu lands are being cultivated. The other crops of the season promising.	
49	Seebsaugor ...	„ 1st	0·67	Weather pretty cool, with mornings and evenings generally cloudy. A few light showers of rain during the week.	Scarcely any crops left on the ground.	
50	Luckimpore ...	„ 1st	1·13	Early part of the week cloudy and threatening, with strong north-west winds. Severe hail-storms on Friday morning.	Nothing but a little mustard on the ground now.	The cold and damp weather has caused an increase of sickness. Fevers, bowel complaints, and colds, but no epidemic.
51	Naga Hills ...	Feb. 22nd	Nil.	Fine, but it has been very hot during the past week.	The hill men are still engaged in cutting their jooms.	
52	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	Mar. 1st	0·32	There have been a few showers during the week throughout the hills.	There are no crops of any kind on the ground at present.	
53	Garo Hills ...	„ 1st	0·30	There have been high winds; the first part of the week was better than usual, when on Friday there was a very sudden fall in the temperature. The atmosphere has been greatly hazy.	Preparations are now being made for next season's crops. The jooms, which are now nearly all cleared, will shortly be burnt.	

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA,
The 11th March 1873.

H. J. S. COTTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 16th to 22nd Feb. 1873.	Rain from 23rd Feb. to 1st Mar. 1873.	Rain from 1st January 1873.		Remarks.
					Inches.	Up to date.	
BENGAL.							
	Western Districts.		Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1873.	
Burdwans.	Burdwan	Burdwan	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1st Mar.	
		Cutwa	0·10	ditto	0·10	ditto.	
		Culna	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Bood-Bood	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Raneegunge	0·05	ditto	0·15	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Bancoorah	Bancoorah	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Beerbhoom	Sooree	ditto	ditto	0·02	ditto.	
	Midnapore	Midnapore	ditto	ditto	0·18	ditto.	
		Tumlook	ditto	Not rec.	0·50	22nd Feb.	
		Gurbetta	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	1st Mar.	
		Contai ... Dy. Collr.'s Office	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Contai ... Exe. Engr.'s Office	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Hooghly	Hooghly	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Serampore	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
	Howrah	Howrah	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
	Central Districts.						
Presidency.	24-Pergunnahs	Saugor Island	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Calcutta	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Alipore... Dispensary	ditto	ditto	0·10	ditto.	
		Alipore... Jail	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Busseerhaut	ditto	Not rec.	ditto	22nd Feb.	
		Baraset	0·02	Nil.	0·02	1st Mar.	
		Diamond Harbour	Nil.	Not rec.	0·45	22nd Feb.	
		Barripore	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	1st Mar.	
		Satkherah	ditto	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
		Barrackpore	ditto	ditto	0·07	ditto.	
		Dum-Dum	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Nuddea	Kishnaghur	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Bongong	Not rec.	ditto	0·11	ditto	Not received, 16th to 22nd February.
		Meherpore	0·25	ditto	0·25	ditto.	
		Chooadaugah	Nil.	Not rec.	Nil.	22nd Feb.	
		Kooshtea	0·06	Nil.	0·30	1st Mar.	
		Ranaghat	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Jessore	Jessore	0·04	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
		Nurail	0·90	0·90	2·60	ditto.	
		Khoolneah	0·30	Nil.	0·30	ditto.	
		Jenidah	Nil.	Not rec.	Nil.	22nd Feb.	
		Bazirhaut	Not rec.	Nil.	ditto	1st Mar.	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
		Magoorah	Nil.	ditto	ditto	ditto	
Rajshahye.	Moorshedabad	Berhampore	0·01	Nil.	0·21	1st Mar.	
		Ramporehaut	Not rec.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	Not received, 9th to 22nd Feb.
		City Moorshedabad	Nil.	ditto	0·25	ditto.	
		Junzipore	0·04	ditto	0·87	ditto.	
		Azimgunge	Nil.	ditto	0·33	ditto.	
	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	0·28	ditto	0·78	ditto.	
	Maldah	Maldah	Nil.	ditto	0·45	ditto.	
	Rajshahye	Beauleah	ditto	ditto	0·63	ditto.	
		Nattore	ditto	ditto	0·51	ditto.	
	Rungpore	Rungpore	0·24	ditto	0·29	ditto.	
		Bhowanigunge	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Titalya	ditto	0·30	0·50	1st Mar.	
	Bograh	Bograh	0·12	Nil.	0·34	ditto.	
	Pubna	Pubna	0·03	ditto	0·17	ditto.	
		Serajgunge	0·10	ditto	0·37	ditto.	
Cooch Behar.	Darjeeling	Darjeeling Telegraph Office	Not rec.	Not rec.	Nil.	15th Jan.	
		Darjeeling Hospital	Nil.	0·25	0·27	1st Mar.	
	Julpigoree	Julpigoree	ditto	0·05	0·10	ditto.	
		Fallacotta	ditto	0·04	0·18	ditto.	
		Boda	0·50	Nil.	0·50	ditto.	
	Cooch Behar Tributary State	Cooch Behar	Nil	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Bhutan Doars	Buxa	0·20	0·26	0·90	ditto.	
	Eastern Districts.						
Dacca.	Dacca	Dacca Telegraph Office	0·12	Nil.	0·12	ditto.	
		Dacca Hospital	0·05	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
		Moonshegunge	Nil.	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
	Furreedpore	Manickgunge	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Furreedpore	ditto	1·40	1·40	ditto.	
		Goalundo	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
	Backergunge	Burrisaul	ditto	ditto	0·59	ditto.	
		Perozepore	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Madaripore	ditto	ditto	0·05	ditto.	
		Patoakhally	ditto	ditto	Nil.	ditto.	
		Dowlat Khan	ditto	ditto	0·22	ditto.	
	Mymensing	Mymensing	ditto	ditto	0·20	ditto.	
		Jamalpore	ditto	0·30	0·30	ditto.	
		Atteah	0·01	Nil.	0·25	ditto.	
		Kishoregunge	0·06	ditto	0·36	ditto.	
	Sylhet	Sylhet	Nil.	1·67	2·50	ditto.	
	Cachar	Cachar	0·09	2·27	3·54	ditto.	
		Hylakandy	0·20	Not rec.	2·11	22nd Feb	Not received, 5th to 11th Jan. and 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
		Koyah	Nil.	ditto	0·66	ditto.	
Chittagong.	Chittagong	Chittagong Telegraph Office	Nil.	Nil.	0·20	1st Mar.	
		Chittagong Jail	ditto	ditto	0·35	ditto.	
		Cox's Bazar	ditto	Not rec.	0·90	22nd Feb.	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Runganutee Hill	ditto	Nil.	0·40	1st Mar.	
	Noakhally	Noakhally	ditto	Nil.	0·01	1st Mar.	
	Tipperah	Comillah	ditto	0·05	0·05	ditto.	
		Brahmanbariah	0·17	0·06	0·20	ditto.	
	Hill Tipperah	Hill Tipperah	0·07	Nil.	0·36	ditto.	

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 16th to 22nd Feb. 1873.	Rain from 23rd Feb. to 1st Mar. 1873.	Rain from 1st January 1873.		Remarks.
					Inches.	Up to date.	
	BEHAR.		Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1873.	
Patna.	Patna	Patna	Not rec.	Nil.	0·21	ditto ...	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
		Behar	Nil.	ditto ...	0·55	ditto.	
		Barh	Not rec.	ditto ...	0·16	ditto ...	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
		Dinapore ... Jail ...	Nil.	ditto ...	0·21	ditto.	
		Dinapore ... Cantonment ...	Not rec.	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto ...	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
	Gya	Gya	Nil.	ditto ...	0·17	ditto.	
		Nowadah	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·32	ditto.	
		Aurungabad	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·12	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·10	ditto.	
	Shahabad	Arrah	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·38	ditto.	
		Sasseram	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·11	ditto.	
		Buxar	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·50	ditto.	
		Bhubooah	ditto ...	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto.	
	Tirhoot	Mozufferpore	ditto ...	ditto ...	2·20	ditto.	
		Durbangah	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·02	ditto ..	Not received, 1st to 4th January.
		Hajipore	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·15	ditto ...	Not rec. 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
		Mudhubani	Not rec.	ditto ...	0·18	ditto ...	Not rec. 26th Jan. to 22nd Feb.
		Seetamaree	Nil.	Not rec.	0·20	22nd Feb.	
		Tajpore	Not rec.	ditto ...	0·25	8th Feb. ...	Not received 1st to 4th and 12th to 25th January.
	Sarun	Chuprah	Nil.	Nil.	0·29	1st Mar.	
		Sewan	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·40	ditto.	
	Chumparun	Motechari	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·90	ditto.	
		Bettiah	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·25	ditto.	
Bhaugulpore.	Monghyr	Monghyr	0·02	ditto ..	0·36	ditto.	
		Begooserai	Nil.	ditto ...	0·20	ditto ...	Not received, 5th to 11th January.
		Jamooie	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·73	ditto.	
	Bhaugulpore	Bhaugulpore	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·40	ditto.	
		Soopool	ditto ...	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto.	
		Mudheypoorah	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Banka	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·70	ditto.	
	Purneah	Purneah	Not rec.	ditto ...	0·27	ditto. ...	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
		Kishengunge	ditto ...	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto. ...	Ditto ditto ditto.
		Arrareah	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto. ...	Ditto ditte ditto.
	Sonteal Pergunnahs	Deoghur	Nil.	ditto ...	0·29	ditto.	
		Jamtara	ditto ...	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto.	
		Rajmehal	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Pakour	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Nya-Doomka	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·26	ditto.	
		Godda	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·62	ditto.	
	ORISSA.						
Orissa.	Cuttack	Cuttack Telegraph Office ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	Nil.	1st Mar.	
		Cuttack Hospital ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Jajipore	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Kendrapara	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Jurutsingpore	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·76	ditto.	
		False Point	ditto ...	Not rec.	Nil.	22nd Feb.	
	Pooree	Pooree	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto ...	1st Mar.	
		Khoordah	ditto ...	ditto ..	0·08	ditto.	
	Balasore	Balasore	ditto ...	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto.	
		Bhuddruck	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
	Cuttack Tributary Mehals	Sambalpore	Not rec.	Not rec.	ditto ...	1st Feb.	
	CHOTA NAGPORE.						
	SOUTH-WESTERN FRONTIER AGENCY.						
	Hazarecbaugh	Hazarecbaugh Jail ...	Nil.	Nil.	ditto ...	1st Mar.	
		Hazarecbaugh Dispensary ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Pachumba	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto .	ditto.	
	Lohardaggah	Ranchee	0·04	ditto ...	0·04	ditto.	
		Palamow	Nil.	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto.	
	Singbhoom	Chyebassa	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·19	ditto.	
	Manbhoom	Purulia	ditto ...	ditto ...	Nil.	ditto.	
		Gobindpore	ditto ...	Not rec.	ditto ...	22nd Feb. ...	Not received, 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
	ASSAM & ADJACENT HILLS.						
	Goalparah	Goalparah	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
		Dhoobree	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto ...	ditto.	
	Kamroop	Gowhatty	0·53	Nil.	0·04	1st Mar.	
		Burpettah	Nil.	ditto ...	0·30	ditto.	
	Durrung	Tezpore	0·15	Not rec.	0·67	22nd Feb.	
		Mungledye	0·83	ditto ...	1·16	ditto.	
	Nowgong	Nowgong	0·13	0·80	0·98	1st Mar.	
	Seebsangor	Seebsangor	0·89	Not rec.	3·10	22nd Feb.	
		Golaghat	0·09	ditto ...	0·89	ditto.	
		Jorehatt	0·20	ditto ...	2·61	ditto.	
		Nazeerah	Not rec.	ditto ...	.....	.....	
	Luckimpore	Debrooghur	2·12	ditto ...	3·87	22nd Feb.	
		North Luckimpore ...	1·21	ditto ...	2·82	ditto.	
	Naga Hills	Suddya	1·02	ditto ...	3·44	ditto.	
		Samoogoodting	Not rec.	ditto ...	0·57	8th Feb.	
	Khasi and Jynteah Hills	Shillong	0·20	0·32	0·52	1st Mar.	
		Jaowai	0·70	2·00	2·70	ditto.	
		Cherrapoonjee	0·11	3·99	4·35	ditto.	
	Garo Hills	Tura	0·04	0·30	0·77	1st Mar.	
		Benares	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Akyab	ditto ...	ditto ...	0·60	ditto.	

CALCUTTA,
The 8th March 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 2nd to 8th March 1873.

Stations.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	Barometer reduced to sea-level.	Thermometer. Dry.	Thermometer. Wet.	Humidity Sat. =100.	Wind. Direction	Wind. Velocity.	Rain.	Clouds.	Weather initials.
Calcutta.	Mar.											
	2nd	10	29·937	29·955	78·5	69·5	61	W N W	...	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·788	29·806	86·0	68·8	37	W S W	...	...	.....	*b*
	3rd	10	29·883	29·901	80·5	74·5	74	S by W	...	...	.....	scuds.
		16	29·773	29·791	88·0	72·5	44	S W	...	...	K	
	4th	10	29·990	30·008	76·2	66·0	56	E N E	...	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·845	29·863	86·2	71·5	45	S S E	...	...	CK	
	5th	10	29·972	29·990	79·2	73·9	76	S by E	...	...	C	
		16	29·828	29·846	87·5	72·5	45	S	...	...	C	
	6th	10	29·998	30·017	73·8	67·8	71	N N E	...	...	K	
		16	29·892	29·911	74·2	70·0	80	W	...	0·02	.....	
	7th	10	30·018	30·037	72·0	67·5	78	N	...	0·10	CK	*o*
		16	29·845	29·863	84·5	71·5	50	S	...	...	K	
	8th	10	29·973	29·992	72·0	68·0	80	W N W	...	1·06	CK, K	
		16	29·827	29·845	81·0	69·0	51	N W	...	...	K	
Saugor Island.	2nd	10	29·938	29·944	81	73	66	W	2·8	...	K	
		16	29·818	29·824	82	74	66	S W	6·9	...	.....	*b*, *m*
	3rd	10	29·908	29·914	84	77	71	S W	10·8	...	N	*b*, *m*
		16	29·806	29·812	83	74	63	S W	20·4	...	KS	scuds.
	4th	10	29·967	29·973	79	71	65	E N E	7·6	...	N	*b*
		16	29·850	29·856	82	73	63	S S E	7·6	...	KS	*b*, *m*
	5th	10	29·984	29·990	83	76	71	W N W	5·1	...	N	*b*
		16	29·850	29·856	83	74	63	S W	8·6	...	KS	*b*
	6th	10	30·003	30·009	82	69	48	N E	5·4	...	C, CK	*b*
		16	29·902	29·908	81	69	51	N	9·5	...	N	*b*, *m*
	7th	10	30·018	30·024	74	69	76	N N W	5·0	...	N	
		16	29·858	29·864	83	72	56	S	9·0	...	KS	*b*
	8th	10	29·976	29·982	75	69	72	N N W	8·6	0·60	K	*b*
		16	29·842	29·848	83	67	39	N	6·9	...	KS	*b*, *v*
Chittagong.	2nd	10	29·860	29·953	81	64	34	N	5·1	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·745	29·837	83	65	33	W	9·4	...	.....	*b*, *m*
	3rd	10	29·853	29·946	78	63	39	N N E	5·9	...	.....	*b*, *m*
		16	29·733	29·825	84	67	37	W	7·3	...	.....	*b*, *m*
	4th	10	29·913	30·007	77	69	64	N N E	5·6	...	.....	*b*, *m*
		16	29·762	29·853	88	71	40	W	6·1	...	.....	*b*, *m*
	5th	10	29·872	29·965	81	68	48	N	4·6	...	.....	*b*, *m*
		16	29·761	29·852	91	69	28	N	10·2	...	.....	*b*, *m*
	6th	10	29·895	29·988	81	68	48	N N E	4·0	...	CK	*b*, *m*
		16	29·761	29·852	90	72	38	W	7·1	...	CK	*b*, *m*
	7th	10	29·885	29·978	80	66	44	N N E	5·2	...	.....	*b*, *m*
		16	29·774	29·865	88	69	34	W	9·7	...	.....	*b*
	8th	10	29·926	30·020	73	66	67	N N W	4·1	...	KS	*w*, *g*
		16	29·757	29·850	82	69	48	E	9·5	...	CK, CS	*b*, *m*
Madras.	1st	10	29·951	29·981	82	72	59	S E by S	9	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·840	29·870	83	74	63	S E by S	9	...	.....	*c*
	2nd	10	29·932	29·962	83	71	52	S E by S	9	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·827	29·857	83	69	46	S E by S	11	...	.....	*b*
	3rd	10	29·937	29·967	84	73	56	S	7	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·804	29·834	82	70	52	S E by S	9	...	.....	*b*
	4th	10	29·954	29·984	83	71	52	S E	8	...	.....	*c*
		16	29·827	29·857	83	73	60	S E by E	9	...	.....	*b*
	5th	10	29·971	30·001	81	71	59	S E	11	...	.....	*c*
		16	29·833	29·863	83	73	56	S E	8	...	.....	*b*
	6th	10	29·964	29·994	81	71	59	S E by E	6	...	.....	*c*
		16	29·837	29·867	83	72	56	S E by E	9	...	.....	*b*
	7th	10	29·984	30·014	85	75	60	S E by E	5	...	.....	*c*
		16	29·844	29·874	84	75	64	E S E	13	...	.....	*c*
Cuttack.	1st	10	29·888	29·971	81	73	66	E N E	1·3	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·746	29·828	89	68	29	S W	2·9	...	.....	*b*
	2nd	10	29·858	29·941	82	74	66	N W	1·1	...	C	
		16	29·706	29·787	90	71	35	N E	3·1	...	C	
	3rd	10	29·813	29·895	84	74	60	S S W	2·8	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·693	29·775	88	73	46	S	9·7	...	S, K	*b*
	4th	10	29·875	29·957	83	75	67	S E	3·3	...	KS, C	
		16	29·776	29·860	69	66	84	S E	6·0	...	.....	*d*
	5th	10	29·876	29·959	76	73	86	S W	1·9	...	C	
		16	29·765	29·848	81	72	62	E S E	3·3	...	K, CK, C	*b*
	6th	10	29·923	30·006	79	73	73	N E	3·1	...	C, K	
		16	29·805	29·888	81	70	55	S	3·5	...	C	
	7th	10	29·903	29·986	80	72	66	S W	2·0	...	C	
		16	29·760	29·842	86	73	51	S S W	4·5	...	CK, C	*b*
Akyab.	2nd	10	29·915	29·937	79	73	73	N	0·1	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·786	29·808	82	70	52	W	4·3	...	.....	*b*
	3rd	10	29·920	29·942	82	67	42	E	0·7	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·804	29·826	83	69	46	W	1·1	...	.....	*b*
	4th	10	29·942	29·964	82	68	45	N W	0·1	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·824	29·846	82	75	70	W	4·0	...	.....	*b*
	5th	10	29·940	29·962	81	72	62	E	0·1	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·821	29·842	84	74	60	W	0·3	...	.....	*b*
	6th	10	29·950	29·971	83	72	56	N N W	0·1	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·801	29·822	86	76	61	S W	1·1	...	.....	*b*
	7th	10	29·934	29·956	81	71	59	E	0·5	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·808	29·829	85	75	60	W	3·5	...	.....	*b*
	8th	10	29·934	29·955	84	75	64	E	...	...	.....	*b*
		16	29·821	29·842	84	72	53	S W	7·0	...	.....	*b*

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 8th March 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 1st to 7th March 1873.

Month.	Date.	Mean reduced barometer.	Thermometer.			Mean dry bulb.	Mean wet bulb.	Computed mean dew-point.	Mean degree of humidity.	Wind.			Rain.	Moon's phases.	General Remarks.
			Highest reading.	Lowest reading.	Max. solar radiation.					Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.			
		Inches.	○	○	○	○	○	○			lb	Miles.	In.		
March ...	1st	29·873	86·4	64·8	139·5	74·8	62·8	54·4	0·51	Variable.	...	75·6	...	...	Clear.
	2nd	·858	86·5	66·0	140·5	75·7	66·5	60·1	·60	N N W & S	...	56·5	...	...	Clear.
	3rd	·830	88·3	70·7	142·5	78·4	71·9	67·3	·70	S	...	122·8	...	...	Clear and cumuli.
	4th	·898	86·5	68·5	139·5	77·0	69·1	63·6	·65	S & S E	0·8	216·8	...	...	Clear cirrostrati and Cirrocumuli.
	5th	·892	88·0	71·0	141·3	78·8	72·0	67·2	·69	S by E & S	0·5	90·9	...	...	Clouds of different kinds.
	6th	·923	7·50	70·0	...	72·7	68·6	65·3	·79	Variable.	...	159·6	0·02	☽	Stratoni and overcast. Slightly Foggy at 11 P.M. Light rain between 6 and 7, at 12 A.M., 2 and 5½ P.M.
	7th	·891	84·5	68·0	137·5	74·9	69·1	65·0	·73	S & Variable.	...	96·2	0·10	...	Clouds of different kinds. Thunder at 8¼ A.M. Light rain between 3 and 4, and at 9 A.M.

The mean barometer as likewise the dry and wet bulb thermometer means are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column 10 represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	⊖ 23·5
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	88·3
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	89·7
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0·67
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0·61
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 1st to 7th — by lower rain gauge	...	0·12
The total fall of rain from 1st to 7th — by anemometer gauge	...	0·05
Ditto ditto ditto average of nineteen previous years	...	0·73
Ditto ditto between the 1st January and the 7th March	...	0·12
Ditto ditto ditto ditto, average of nineteen previous years	...	2·10

GOPEENAUTH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

The 10th March 1873.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, IRRIGATION BRANCH, BENGAL.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Hidgellee Tidal Canal for the month of January 1873.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—26 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate Weight of cargo.	Approximate Value of cargo.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty Boats. Maunds	Tons.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.
		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.
2	Cocoanuts No.	6,000	140	350	...	...	1 12 0
1	Plantains „	8,000	20	50	...	...	0 4 0
1	Orangotang „	3	...	50	...	...	0 4 9
1	Pots „	6,000	60	375	...	...	1 14 0
1	Soondreepiles „	60	100	475	...	...	2 6 0
1	Bamboos „	800	160	...	...	...	2 0 0
2	Passengers „	8	...	130	...	...	0 12 0
14	Empty boats ...	...	...	...	...	...	11 2 0
5	Tobacco Mds.	680	3,300	975	...	...	4 14 0
1	Salt „	125	500	200	...	...	1 0 0
5	Firewood „	1,350	323	2,050	...	...	10 4 0
3	Miscellaneous „	440	2,200	855	...	...	4 4 6
2	Stone Lime „	1,050	1,050	1,600	...	...	8 0 0
1	Ghooting Lime „	400	130	600	...	...	3 0 0
1	Spices „	125	1,000	225	...	...	1 2 0
1	Corn „	32	150	100	...	...	0 8 0
1	Clothes „	10	800	75	...	...	0 6 0
1	Ganges water „	...	...	450	...	...	2 4 0
44		4,112	9,933	8,560	305*	7,948	56 1 3

ABSTRACT.

Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Remarks.
		Mds.	Rs.			Rs. A. P.	
44	Local ...	4,112	9,933	305	7,948	56 1 3	Canals closed for traffic since 21st ultimo. Toll realized from portion of range No. 1 canal between Banka and the junction of the extension line of new canal with the existing canal.
44		4,112	9,933	305	7,948	56 1 3	

N. B.—Tonnage shown above is that of the boats and not of the cargo.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, IRRIGATION BRANCH, BENGAL.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Kendraparah Canal for the month of January 1873.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—42 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate Weight of cargo.	Approximate Value of cargo.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats. Maunds.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats. Tons.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.
		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.
8	Paddy ...	...	840	1,680	...	...	9 0 0
5	Jaggry ...	...	5,230	1,046	...	...	5 14 0
3	Salt ...	...	2 200	440	...	...	4 0 0
1	Turmeric ...	...	810	162	...	...	0 12 0
2	Dry-fish ...	...	4,050	405	...	...	1 14 0
3	Oil-cake ...	...	396	453	...	...	3 8 0
3	Passengers, 8 in No.	...	...	294	...	...	2 7 0
1	Firewood ...	...	29	292	...	...	0 8 0
5	Stone ...	...	50	2,131	...	...	2 8 0
2	Planks ...	...	80	202	...	...	1 10 0
26	Empty ...	...	...	...	...	...	10 2 0
2 Rafts	Bamboos 1,600 in No.	...	16	...	...	...	3 5 5
2 Rafts	Timbers 72 in No.	...	144	...	...	...	12 4 1
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
63		...	13,845	7,105	320	4,759	57 12 6

THROUGH TRAFFIC.

Number of boats or rafts.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate Weight of cargo.	Approximate Value of cargo.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats. Maunds.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats. Tons.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.
			Rs.				Rs. As. P.
30	Paddy ...	...	3,364	6,728	...	...	74 4 0
1	Jaggry ...	...	1,435	287	...	...	4 2 0
50	Spices ...	...	356,000	17,800	...	...	253 12 0
4	Salt-fish ...	...	11,737	939	...	...	10 2 0
3	Horns ...	...	5,600	560	...	...	7 14 0
1	Raisins, &c. ...	...	10,240	256	...	...	3 12 0
4	Oil-cake ...	...	1,064	1,215	...	...	15 2 0
1	Kharee ...	...	442	177	...	...	2 10 0
12	Hides ...	...	63,600	6,360	...	...	97 14 0
4	Passengers, 6 in No.	...	...	377	...	...	5 9 0
1	Coal, &c. ...	...	472	630	...	...	9 6 0
2	Bamboos ...	...	1,250	2,500	...	...	9 8 0
4	Firewood ...	...	214	2,144	...	...	15 8 0
1	Planks ...	...	97	243	...	...	3 6 0
1	Beams ...	...	1,125	397	...	...	5 10 0
10	Timbers ...	...	1,206	4,022	...	...	59 4 0
1	Bags ...	...	1,533	219	...	...	3 0 0
63	Empty ...	...	...	...	...	...	102 10 0
4 Rafts.	Timbers, 349 in No.	...	698	...	...	...	130 14 0
197		...	4,60,077	44,854	1,602	67,281	814 3 0

ABSTRACT.

Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.
	LOCAL TRAFFIC PAID.		Rs.			Rs. As .P.
63	Local traffic ...1	...	13,845	320	4,759	57 12 6
	THROUGH TRAFFIC PAID.					
197	Through traffic ...	...	~4,60,077	1,602	67,284	814 3 0
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
260		...	4,73,922	1,922	72,043	871 15 6

Tonnage shewn above is that of the boats and not of the cargo.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, IRRIGATION BRANCH, BENGAL.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Toldundah Canal for the month of January 1873.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—27¼ MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.

Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate		Tonnage, exclusive of empty Boats.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.
		Weight of cargo.	Value of cargo.	Maunds.	Tons.		
							Rs. A. P.
	5,000 Bamboos	.....	53	.....	...	.....	4 2 8
2	Empty	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	1 13 0
2		.....	53	.....	...	.....	5 15 8

ABSTRACT.

Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Tonnage, exclusive of empty boats.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.
		Mds.	Rs.			Rs. A. P.
2	Local Traffic ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 15 8
.....	Irrigation Traffic ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2		.....	.....	.....	.....	5 15 8

Tonnage shown above is that of the boats and not of the cargo.

IRRIGATION BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

SOUTH-WESTERN CIRCLE.

COSSYE DIVISION.

Statement showing the amount of Traffic and Tolls on the Midnapore Section of the High Level Canal for the month of January 1873.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN—24 MILES.

LOCAL TRAFFIC.								STORES AND MATERIALS FOR IRRIGATION WORKS.								ABSTRACT.								
Number of boats.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate weight of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	Total, exclusive of tonnage of empty boats.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats or rafts.	Nature of cargo.	Approximate weight of cargo.	Approximate value of cargo.	Total, exclusive of tonnage of empty boats.		Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Nature of traffic.	Weight of cargo.	Value of traffic.	Total, exclusive of tonnage of empty boats.	Ton mileage.	Tollage.	Remarks.
				Mds.	Tons.							Mds.	Tons.										
		Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.			Mds.	Rs.				Rs. A. P.			Mds.	Rs.			Rs. A. P.	
23	Coal ...	12,610	3,916	20,850	...	...	127 7 6	1	Iron stores ...	100	500	375	...	...	5 10 0	1,688	Local ...	53,128	4,50,477	5,451	50,386	1,404 7 3	Tolls for same month in previous year were Rs. 1,216-5-6.
29	Cotton ...	3,055	60,540	7,925	...	...	42 4 0	4	Portland cement ...	900	2,500	2,275	...	...	34 2 0	13	Irrigation works ...	1,393	4,917	115	2,517	58 12 6	
11	Firewood ...	529	1,271	1,975	...	...	9 12 0																
50	Grain ...	3,855	13,414	10,450	...	...	50 13 6	2	Rafts of timbers ...	...	1,650	Logs 33	...	...	12 6 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
16	Hides and horns	1,325	23,265	3,050	...	...	24 7 6																
18	Jaggry and sugar	1,245	3,950	3,6 0		...	20 7 6	1	Coal ...	150	47	250	...	...	1 9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
13	Metal ...	765	26,210	2,75	...	...	14 0 0	1	Planks ...	213	220	325	...	...	2 0 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
151	Miscellaneous ...	5,161	23,470	26,250	...	...	132 11 6	4	Empty boats	...	...	...	...	...	3 1 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
45	Oil and oilseeds ...	3,913	18,231	10,350	...	...	44 4 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
47	Paddy and rice ...	3,874	5,543	9,425	...	...	39 3 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
69	Piece-goods ...	659	42,957	8,850	...	...	35 12 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
40	Thread ...	1,193	71,142	9,150	...	...	41 4 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
17	Garden produce ...	1,198	5,721	3,450	...	...	17 6 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
18	Pottery ...	226	231	2,875	...	...	11 0 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
33	Salt ...	4,942	19,707	10,025	...	...	55 0 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
27	Silk and indigo ...	1,513	1,08,870	6,125	...	...	37 5 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
2	Jute ...	155	425	450	...	...	4 3 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
4	Straw ...	374	123	1,375	...	...	5 2 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
33	Tobacco ...	3,175	20,375	8,950	...	...	43 12 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
2	Tiles ...	1,500	800	2,20	...	...	33 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
9	Sand ...	940	67	2,425	...	...	12 6 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1	Bricks ...	111	7	150	...	...	0 15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
6	Rafts of timbers ...	...	242	Logs 20	...	...	2 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
200	Empty boats ...	...	...	...	...	...	108 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
738	Passengers ...	...	...	no.8,192	...	...	98 4 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Ditto ...	...	...	52,825	...	...	383 9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Miscellaneous revenue.	...	...	...	...	...	9 5 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
26	Police boats ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1,688	Total ...	53,128	4,50,477	1,52,650	5,451	5,386	1,404 7 3	13		1,393	4,917	3,225	115	2,517	58 12 6	1,701		54,521	4,55,394	5,566	52,903	1,463 3 9	

Tonnage shown above is that of the boats and not of the cargo.

The 10th February 1873.

F. T. HAIG, *Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,*
Offg Joint-Secretary to the Government of Bengal
in the P. W. Dept., Irrigation Branch.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 22nd February 1873, on 156¼ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.			Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.			Total receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	34,917	36,615 12 3	3,356 8 11	140,241 15½	25,405 14 6	2,328 17 6	5,685 6 5
Or per mile of railway	223	235 15 6	21 8 11	896 0	162 5 4	14 17 7	36 6 6
For previous 7 weeks of half-year	212,253	1,88,925 15 3	17,318 4 2	776,795 28½	1,66,513 3 6	15,263 14 1	32,581 18 3
Total for 8 weeks	247,170	2,25,541 11 6	20,674 13 1	917,037 4	1,91,919 2 0	17,592 11 7	38,267 4 8
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	41,180	23,904 1 7	2,191 4 2	208,965 25	42,628 7 7	3,907 12 3	6,098 16 5
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	263	152 11 10	14 0 0	1,335 0	272 6 2	24 19 5	38 19 5
Total to corresponding date of previous year	239,863½	1,67,199 0 7	15,326 11 7	931,851 36	1,89,828 8 3	7,400 19 0	32,727 10 7

NALHATI STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st March 1873, on 27¼ miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	2,525½	1,841 0 0	184 2 0	6,012 0	618 0 0	61 16 0	245 18 0
Or per mile of railway	93	67 8 0	6 15 0	221 0	22 8 0	2 5 0	9 0 0
For previous 8 weeks of half-year...	12,243½	8,871 0 0	887 2 0	45,997 0	3,818 0 0	381 16 0	1,268 18 0
Total for 9 weeks	14,769	10,712 0 0	1,071 4 0	52,009 0	4,436 0 0	443 12 0	1,514 16 0
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st March 1873, on 28 miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	9,123	1,369 0 0	136 18 0	17,604 0	664 0 0	66 8 0	203 6 0
Or per mile of railway	326	49 0 0	4 18 0	629 0	24 0 0	2 8 0	7 6 0
For previous 8 weeks of half-year	68,749	10,030 0 0	1,003 0 0	124,063 0	4,014 0 0	401 8 0	1,404 8 0
Total for 9 weeks	77,872	11,399 0 0	1,139 18 0	141,667 0	4,678 0 0	467 16 0	1,607 14 0
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	8,154	1,232 10 9	123 5 4	16,556 0	728 0 0	72 16 0	196 1 4
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	291	44 0 4	4 8 1	591 11	26 0 0	2 12 0	7 0 1
Total to corresponding date of previous year	75,251½	10,637 2 9	1,063 14 4	145,140 0	4,435 15 9	443 12 0	1,507 6 4

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st March 1873, on 1,280 miles open.

		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	126,342	1,84,518 4 4	16,914 3 6	785,332 10	3,86,830 10 6	35,459 9 6	52,373 13 0
Or per mile of railway	.....	144 2 6	13 4 3	.....	302 3 4	27 14 1	40 18 4
For previous 8 weeks of half-year...	813,270	12,57,046 14 6	115,229 6 0	5,867,923 0	30,06,991 9 3	275,640 17 11	390,879 3 11
Total for 9 weeks	939,612	14,41,565 2 10	132,143 9 6	6,653,255 10	33,93,822 3 9	311,100 7 5	443,243 16 11
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	113,734	1,70,327 3 2	15,613 6 6	753,026 0	4,11,895 2 6	37,757 1 2	55,370 7 8
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	133 1 1	12 4 0	.....	321 12 8	29 9 11	41 13 11
Total to corresponding date of previous year	925,019	14,22,603 2 4	130,405 5 9	6,782,383 30	41,40,154 13 0	380,339 3 10	510,744 9 7

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY—JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st March 1873, on 223½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.			Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.			Total receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£. s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	5,879	21,230 4 0	1,946 2 1	68,562 10	19,208 2 9	1,760 15 0	3,706 17 1
Or per mile of railway	.....	94 15 10	8 14 2	.....	85 15 1	7 17 7	16 11 9
For previous 8 weeks of half-year...	38,851	1,27,125 0 8	11,653 2 7	5,31,314 20	1,67,949 8 9	15,395 7 6	27,048 10 1
Total for 9 weeks	44,730	1,48,355 4 8	13,599 4 8	599,876 30	1,87,157 11 6	17,156 2 6	30,755 7 2
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	5,224	26,051 7 8	2,388 1 0	62,270 30	17,616 2 6	1,614 16 3	4,002 17 3
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	116 13 2	10 14 2	.....	78 15 11	7 4 10	17 19 0
Total to corresponding date of previous year	47,242	1,63,402 5 9	14,978 10 11	652,374 30	1,71,295 14 0	15,702 2 5	30,680 13 4

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The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1873.

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Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 8th March 1873.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *presiding*,
The Hon'ble G. C. PAUL, *Acting Advocate-General*,
The Hon'ble F. L. BEAUFORT,
The Hon'ble V. H. SCHALCH,
The Hon'ble C. E. BERNARD,
The Hon'ble MOULVY ABDOOL LUTEEF, KHAN BAHADOOR,
The Hon'ble B. D. COLVIN,
The Hon'ble T. M. ROBINSON,
The Hon'ble F. F. WYMAN,
The Hon'ble RAJAH JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE, BAHADOOR,
and
The Hon'ble BABOO DEGUMBER MITTER.

AMENDMENT OF THE ABKAREE ACTS.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT moved that the Bill to amend section 9 of Act XI of 1849 and section 27 of Act XXI of 1856 be read in Council. He said that as at the last sitting of the Council he had sufficiently explained the object of the Bill, he would not trouble them with any further remarks at present.

THE HON'BLE BABOO DEGUMBER MITTER said:—"So far as the proposed amendments aimed at preventing jobbery in the disposal of licenses, I think they are calculated to do so most effectually, and they had therefore my hearty support. But there are other and very important questions raised in the speech delivered by your Honor at the last sitting of the Council, upon which I wish to be permitted to address a few words. Your Honor is reported to have said—for I was unavoidably absent on the occasion—that the primary object of the proposed amendments in the Abkaree Acts, was to put down the growing consumption of spirituous and fermented liquors—a necessity which has also been seriously felt by, and has since some years engaged the earnest attention of, some of the best men of our community.

There can be no question, Sir, that the Hindoos, especially the higher classes of them, were at one time noted for their abstemiousness, due entirely to restraints imposed by our religion against the use of intoxicating drinks. But from various causes, of which the spread of English education and ideas are perhaps the principal, the stronghold which religion had on the minds of the people is gradually but steadily weakening, especially amongst the higher classes. It is, therefore, a matter of the highest gratulation to all well-wishers of the country, that our rulers are determined, even at the sacrifice of revenue, to supplement the efforts of religion, by means of legislation, in checking the spread of drunkenness. But, Sir, however much we may deplore, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that in this hot and enervating climate, a great yearning has, from the earliest ages, been manifested for some kind of stimulating drinks, and hence it is that, as a concession to this national craving, our legislators of old were compelled to modify the total abstinence ordinance of our religion, by sanctioning the use of spirituous liquors at certain stated days of the month, and in strictly regulated doses, in the case of those who manifested a strong desire for drink, and in whom the religious injunction of total abstinence was found to be inoperative. But the maxim that it was easier to abstain altogether from, than to be moderate in, the use of intoxicating drinks was soon exemplified, and the excesses committed by the Bamacharees may be said to have acclerated the advent of Choitunno, who again preached and enjoined total abstinence, and succeeded in a remarkable degree in checking the growth of drunkenness. But however greatly Choitunno and other religious chieftains who had preceded him might have contributed to stop the consumption of spirituous liquors, they do not seem to have ever taken heed that the popular craving was being satisfied in another way, that is, by the use of *subjee* and *ganja*. In fact, they seem to have encouraged their use, in order more effectually to check the use of intoxicating drinks; and there is no denying the fact that both *ganja* and *subjee* as well as opium are much more extensively used in this as well as the North-Western Provinces than intoxicating drinks. I have not had statistics at command to satisfy myself from figures what effect the increased duty on liquors has had on the consumption of *bhang*, *ganja*, and opium. But I can say of my own personal knowledge that the use of opium is fast spreading amongst the respectable classes of my countrymen, and in the majority of cases as a cheep substitute for spirituous drink both in Calcutta and other populous towns in Bengal. The injurious effect of opium and *ganja* both upon the *physique* and intellect is, I believe, never questioned. One may however satisfy himself on that point by a visit paid to the Dullunda Lunatic Asylum, and some of the many opium-smoking public houses in Calcutta. The former will show that more than half the number of such cases treated therein owes their origin to *ganja*, and the latter will present the sad spectacle of some of the best specimens of humanity reduced to a state of utter helplessness, both bodily and mentally, by a few months of opium smoking. I do not wish to express myself dogmatically on this difficult problem one way or the other. If possible, I would put down the use both of intoxicating drugs and drinks. But I would in all humility submit for the serious consideration of our rulers, whether, in our attempt to check the consumption of intoxicating drinks by making it an expensive luxury, we may not be encouraging the spread of a cheaper substitute for it, and one perhaps more deleterious to the healthy development of our species and less conducive to longevity."

THE HON'BLE MR. WYMAN said, while he thought that the proposed amendment of the abkaree law would lead, to a certain extent, to the attainment of the desired object, he was sure that they ought to go farther than they did. The amendments seemed to him to be confined to giving the Board of Revenue a little more discretion in the granting of licenses than they at present possessed. He thought it was a patent fact in Calcutta that the working of the Act was defective, not only in that respect, but in many others; and he should be glad to see a somewhat more comprehensive series of amendments proposed—in fact, a general amendment of the law, for the advantage both of the people and the State. The system, for instance, of granting licenses was found to operate most inadequately; for whatever care might be taken in granting licenses to none but respectable men, it frequently happened that the man who got the license was not the man who held it. There was a system of secret transfers of licenses which ought, as far as possible, to be checked, for the traffic in spirituous liquors was at present carried on greatly to the detriment of the morals of the people, and, he might say, also to the loss of health. You had only to walk round the streets of Calcutta to see an immense number of low grog shops filled with a low class of Europeans and natives, where the most poisonous stuff was sold in the name of brandy, causing death to our sailors. There seemed to be no control over such establishments; and he thought some amendment of the law which would enable the excise authorities to exercise a better control over these establishments than now existed, would be very desirable. He hoped the Committee would see fit to take into consideration the salient points indicated, and would call for such information as would enable them to suggest remedies for improvement. He thought if that were done, the amendments proposed would greatly improve the existing law, and confer great benefit on those classes who were suffering so much under the existing system of granting licenses.

THE HON'BLE MOULVIE ABDOOL LUTEEF said he was also of opinion with the hon'ble member who had just spoken (Mr. Wyman) that if the law was to be amended at all, there were other points also in the existing Acts which deserved to be taken into consideration, and he thought that if this Bill were referred to a Select Committee for the consideration of the points contained in it, the Committee should be empowered to take into consideration any other provisions in the existing Acts which required amendment.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT said in another motion which he should make on that day he proposed to ask leave to introduce a Bill to amend several defects in the excise laws. If leave were given, he should propose that both the Bills be referred to the same Committee, and it would doubtless be competent to such Committee to entertain any other proposals for amendment which any hon'ble member might submit for their consideration, and to report their opinion to the Council. As no substantive motion had been made by either of the hon'ble members, who had addressed the Council, he would not discuss the subject further on the present occasion.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor said he was sure the Government had every reason to thank the hon'ble members who took so thorough and practical an interest in this most important subject. He had often had occasion to notice the practical character of the assistance rendered to the Government by this Council, and especially the obligations under which the Government were to the independent members, who so cordially gave their services and took so lively an interest in matters of such great importance to the whole community. He was sure the Council had listened with great interest to the observations which had been made. He thought the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had put the matter in a light which would satisfy the Council when he said that he was about to introduce another Bill which would deal farther with the provisions of the Excise Acts, the object being that the two Bills should be referred to the same Committee in order that they should be considered together. The second Bill would contain some modifications of the existing law which had been suggested by the responsible advisers of the Government and the Board of

Revenue. And he might say, on behalf of the Government, that if those hon'ble members would give their assistance in Committee we should be happy to consider any other points that might be brought forward and to amend these laws as far as they could be amended with advantage to the community. Some reflections not altogether of an agreeable kind had been suggested by the hon'ble member on the right (Baboo Degumber Mitter). He said that with English education also came in the love of drink; with English education and Western habits the love of drink had, he said, invaded this country. But it was some consolation for us to learn that although the love of drink might be baneful, it was not so baneful as some other habits indigenous to the country, and not attributable to the influence of English education. The hon'ble member was, he believed, right in thinking that the consumption of some of the intoxicating drugs common to the country was more deleterious than the consumption of spirituous liquors. With respect to opium the hon'ble member was apprehensive that amongst the higher classes its consumption was extending. But His Honor was glad to be able to give the hon'ble member this assurance that he had reason to believe that amongst the masses of the people the consumption of opium did not very largely increase. It appeared to him that as respects opium it was very much a matter of race. The Indo-Chinese race had a natural proclivity for the consumption of opium, but not so the Aryan race, which was rather given to strong drinks. At any rate from inquiries made in the opium-cultivating districts, and from many qualified persons, he had satisfied himself that in the opium districts, where the facilities for obtaining cheap opium were unlimited, where it was in the power of almost every man to consume opium ready at his hand, the consumption of opium did not spread amongst the cultivators and people generally. It had been a relief to his mind to receive that assurance from many qualified quarters; for it had been an oppression and a dread to him that possibly the cultivation of opium in this country might lead to an extension of the consumption of that most noxious drug by those engaged in its cultivation and manufacture. He was glad, then, to be able to say that it was not so, and that amongst the opium cultivators as a body there was no general tendency to the consumption of opium. Then there was the other very deleterious drug *ganja* or *bhang*. He believed that the hon'ble member had rightly informed the Council that it was a drug of a peculiarly noxious character, leading to madness and other evils. But His Honor was glad to be in a position to say that the effect of the existing system of granting licenses for the sale of *ganja*, as superintended by the Board of Revenue, had been to increase the price of the drug and diminish its consumption. Our figures showed that the consumption of *ganja* was not so great at the present time as it was some years before, whilst the duty derived from its sale was larger and the revenue greater. Therefore we had succeeded in obtaining with a smaller consumption a larger revenue. A revenue of that kind, derived from a decrease in the vices of the people, was of all revenues the most advantageous to the country. He trusted that we would follow that course as much as possible, and that we should be assisted by the labors of hon'ble members interested in the subject if they would give us their assistance in modifying the provisions of the law in those points which practical experience had shown to require modification. Both drugs and spirits were most deleterious, and any thing that we could do to limit their consumption ought to be done. He trusted it would be understood that our object was to limit the consumption by all the means in our power, and at the same time to raise the largest revenue possible from a diminished consumption, so that the country might be benefited by the diminished consumption as well as by an increase of revenue.

The Motion was agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. Beaufort moved that the Bill be referred to a select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Schalch, the Hon'ble Moulvy Abdool Luteef, the Hon'ble Mr. Wyman, the Hon'ble Baboo Degumber Mitter, and the mover, with instructions to report in a fortnight.

THE HON'BLE MR. SCHALCH said that if the Committee were to take into consideration amendments amounting to a general alteration or improvement of the law, they would require a very much longer time than a fortnight within which to submit their report. Possibly this was a case in which it was desirable to confine the Bill to the amendments contained in it. The Committee might report on the Bill as it stood, and when the Bill, which was next in the list of business, was referred to a Committee, they might undertake a general consideration of the subject.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that at the end of the fortnight we should know what the views of the Committee were, and if it should be necessary, the Council might grant the Committee an extension of time.

The Motion was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OF THE ABKAREE ACTS.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT moved for leave to bring in a Bill to amend Act XI of 1849, Act XXI of 1856, and Act XXIII of 1860, the two excise laws in force in Calcutta and the mofussil, Act XXIII of 1860 being only an amendment of Act XXI of 1856. The object of this Bill was to amend certain defects which were believed to exist in the excise law. Perhaps he should explain why two Bills were brought forward instead of one on the same subject. Since he proposed at the last meeting to introduce a Bill to amend two sections of two Abkaree Acts, it had been suggested that the opportunity should be taken to amend certain other defects in the excise laws which had been pointed out by the Board of Revenue some time ago. The leave, however, which he had obtained at the last sitting of the Council to introduce the first Bill did not refer to any other defects in the Abkaree laws than the specific points which that Bill was designed to meet, and therefore it appeared to him that the most proper course to take was to embody the other suggestions for the amendment of the excise laws in a separate Bill, and to ask leave to-day to introduce it, and subsequently to move that both Bills be referred to the same Committee, in order that they might be considered at the same time and amalgamated, if the Select Committee should see fit to do so.

The object of this second Bill would be found to be clear enough on a perusal of the several sections, but he would shortly explain them. The first section referred to a difficulty which the Board had experienced in restricting the cultivation of plants producing intoxicating drugs, and regulating the disposal of the drugs. By one of the sections of the present Act XXI of 1856, section 33, the Board of Revenue was empowered to place the cultivation, preparation, and storing of those plants and drugs under supervision. But the section contained no provision imposing any penalty for disobedience or contravention of the rules prescribed by the Board. It was therefore scarcely possible to enforce those rules. By another section of the same Act, cultivators of intoxicating drugs were expressly permitted, without a license, to sell such drugs to a licensed vendor, or to hold in their possession any quantity of such drugs. Therefore it was easy at any time for the cultivators to dispose of the drug in any way they pleased. A cultivator might have cultivated the plant and stored the drug with the full knowledge of the excise officer; but if the excise officer were to inquire the next day what had become of the drug, he might be told that it had been destroyed by white ants, or that it had disappeared, and he would be perfectly helpless to call the cultivator to account in any way. That was a state of things which ought not to exist; and the first two sections of the Bill were designed to remedy it. By the amended section 33 it is proposed to give power to the Board of Revenue to prescribe rules for the restriction and supervision of the cultivation of plants producing intoxicating drugs, and to grant licenses to persons for their cultivation and preparation, so that it would be punishable to cultivate, prepare, store, possess, purchase, or transport any intoxicating drug without an express license, and every person storing it would be responsible for the proper disposal of it.

The rules to be made would be subject to the sanction of Government, and the Board was empowered to provide a penalty for any contravention of them. The revised section 50 protected persons holding licenses from the operation of

the two preceding sections 48 and 49, which provide penalties for the illicit manufacture, or sale, or possession, of such drugs; but it imposed a penalty on cultivators who part with the drug to other than licensed vendors or failed to account for any portion of the quantity stored.

The words had purposely been made large in order to cover every kind of transfer, and to give a complete control to the excise authorities.

Section 3 of the Bill referred to the punishment of persons guilty of offences against the excise law. The present law provided for the imprisonment of an offender in default of payment of the fine, and it was proposed to provide further for the recovery of the fine by sale of personal property. Under the general criminal law the Magistrate was empowered both to imprison in default of payment, and also to enforce payment of the fine; and the section propose to apply the same rules to offenders against the excise law.

The Board of Revenue had found reason to believe that the manufacture of fermented liquors, other than the taree, pachwai, and malt liquor mentioned in this law, was increasing; as for instance, the sharbat-bahar, which was said to be made from molasses, and a wine made from the fruit of the jaman-tree. Such liquors ought to be brought under the same rules which applied to taree and pachwai, and with that view section 4 of the Bill had been framed.

Section 5 of the Bill referred to Calcutta. Under the present law, Act XI of 1849, the excise law in Calcutta, wholesale dealers in spirituous wines and liquors were not required to take out licenses at all. In other parts of the country, in the whole of Northern India, in the North-West, and Central Provinces, in Oudh, in the Punjab, and in Coorg, wholesale dealers were required by Act X of 1871 to take out licenses, and the same burden was imposed on the wholesale dealers throughout the mofussil in the Lower Provinces by Act XXI of 1856. Therefore it seemed anomalous that in Calcutta alone the wholesale dealers should be exempted. The object of section 5 of the Bill was to place wholesale dealers in Calcutta in the same position as other wholesale dealers in other parts of the country.

The last section of the Bill provided for the imprisonment of convicted offenders under the excise law in the criminal as well as in the civil jail. Under the present law, such persons could be imprisoned in the civil jail only. Abkaree and police officers guilty of specified offences might be confined in the criminal jail, but in all other cases arising under the excise law out of Calcutta, the imprisonment must be in the civil jail. The object of this distinction was not very apparent. No doubt there were cases in which it would be unjust to confine a man amongst criminals. The possession of a small quantity of taree, for instance, or other excisable spirit or drug, was not an immoral offence, and ordinarily a Magistrate would think imprisonment in the civil jail quite sufficient to meet such a case. But in the case of confirmed offenders, and in cases in which it was obvious from the acts proved, that imprisonment in the civil jail would be an insufficient punishment, the Magistrate ought to have a discretion to imprison offenders in the criminal jail, and therefore the proposed section left it entirely to the discretion of the Magistrate to imprison offenders in either one or the other jail as the circumstances of the case might seem to require.

He had explained the several sections of the Bill, and he would now ask for leave to introduce it.

The Motion was agreed to.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT applied to the President to suspend the rules for the conduct of business in order that the Bill may be read in Council that day, and referred with the other Bill on the same subject to the same Committee at once, so that no time might be lost in the submission of their report.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT declared the rules suspended for the purpose stated by the hon'ble member.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT then moved that the Bill be read in Council.

The HON'BLE MOULVIE ABDOOL LUTEEF wished to say one word with reference to the section of the Bill which permitted sentences of imprisonment for offences committed under the Act to be either in the civil or criminal jail.

Most offences under the Abkaree law were punishable with fine commutable to imprisonment in the civil jail. If by this Bill it was intended to make some of those offences punishable with imprisonment in the criminal jail, he thought that the offences so punishable should be clearly pointed out; otherwise the adjudicating officers would be placed in a difficult position, and danger might be apprehended, that what was intended to be mere imprisonment in the criminal jail might lead some officers to think that they were empowered to award rigorous imprisonment as well. He thought that this point ought to be clearly laid down in the Bill by the Select Committee. Many of the offences under the Abkaree law were committed by servants of Abkars and other men selling intoxicating drugs and liquors; but according to the law, the persons holding Abkaree licenses were the persons who in such cases were punishable with fine; they were held responsible for the acts of their subordinates and servants, and it would be very hard to punish such men as criminals. He, therefore, thought that the power of awarding imprisonment in the criminal jail, or with hard labor, for non-payment of fine, should be exercised with great care.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT said the point noticed by the hon'ble member would be carefully considered by the Committee. He would only now observe that the discretion given to the Magistrate of awarding imprisonment in the criminal jail did not carry with it the power to subject the offender to hard labor. The two kinds of imprisonment were clearly defined in the Penal Code, and unless the power of awarding rigorous imprisonment were given by the law, the Magistrate could sentence the offender only to imprisonment without labor.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that he had no doubt the Select Committee would fully consider whether it would be desirable to modify the section so as to define what offences should be treated civilly and what offences were deserving of criminal punishment. It appeared to him that there were some offences against the Abkaree laws which it would be most necessary to treat as criminal offences; but it would be for the Committee to decide what offences should be treated in the one way and what in the other.

The Motion was agreed to.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT moved that the Bill be referred to the same Committee as in the other Bill just read in Council, with instructions to report in the same time, and to amalgamate the two Bills, if they should think it desirable to do so. If it should be found necessary to prolong the time, leave could be given afterwards by the Council so as to enable the Committee to consider fully any other questions which might be brought forward by any hon'ble member.

The Motion was agreed to.

EMIGRATION TO THE LABOR DISTRICTS.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT moved that the Bill to amend the law relating to the emigration of laborers to the districts of Assam, Cachar, and Sylhet, and to regulate contract-labor and service, be read in Council. He had troubled the Council on two previous occasions with remarks on the nature and objects of the Bill, and he did not think he need say anything more at present.

THE HON'BLE MR. ROBINSON said, he thought the hon'ble member, in introducing this Bill to the Council, and describing it in a great measure as a re-arrangement of the existing law, and as an old friend in a new dress, had ascribed to it a character of innocence that it could not be considered to possess. The provisions of the Bill were so numerous and went necessarily so very much into detail, that it was a matter of considerable time and labor to examine them thoroughly, and that labor was increased by the necessity of comparing them with the provisions of the existing Act, with the working of which we had become accustomed. He had devoted considerable time to the consideration of the provisions of this Bill, and a great many gentlemen interested in the tea districts had done the same, and they all looked on them with considerable apprehension. He regretted very much that it should be considered necessary at all to legislate again on this subject. It was done in 1863, it was done in 1865, and it was done in 1869. And on the last occasion the subject received

a great deal of attention, and excited a very great deal of discussion. The last Act passed had now been in force scarcely three years; both the laborers and planters and all parties concerned in the cultivation of tea were gradually becoming accustomed to its conditions; whatever obstacles there might have been to its smooth working was being gradually got over, and we had no reason to suppose that the Act had not been working favorably. But he regretted more the introduction of the Bill, because the whole tenor and tendency of it was to add to the expenses and to the difficulties and restrictions imposed on the tea planters. The fees were largely increased; the whole system of engaging emigrants was changed and made more difficult. The conditions under which emigrants were to be conveyed to the tea districts were considerably altered, and the conditions for dealing with them when there were also altered; and all to the same purport. It would appear to anybody coming to this subject now for the first time, that the cause of the introduction of this Bill must be that the previous legislation had not been found sufficient to provide for a fair system of recruiting—the proper protection of the emigrant on his voyage to the tea districts, or when he had arrived there and was at his work. That, he could assure the Council, was not his own opinion alone. Every gentleman connected with the tea districts to whom he had spoken had made the same remark to him. They all asked with one voice, "What is the meaning of this new legislation? What is the object of it? What have we done to convince the Government that more restrictions are necessary to be placed upon us for the protection of the coolie emigrants to the tea districts? We were in great hopes when the last Act was passed, that with it what was our one great desire should be accomplished, namely, that we should be left in peace and rest,—that peace and rest which it was universally thought by gentlemen of position and standing in Calcutta, who were engaged in commercial pursuits and largely interested in the cultivation of tea, we had most fairly earned by our humane and fair treatment of the laborers, and by our loyal endeavours to carry on our work according to the conditions of the Act, although we objected to many of them as too restrictive."

Now, referring to the Bill itself, it was of course impossible and not desirable that he should go through it section by section at this stage of the discussion. He would therefore only make a few remarks in support of the general ones he had made as to the effect of the Bill. And, first, in regard to the engagement of the coolies: the provisions of the Bill all had one tendency, which was to make the system of recruiting by garden-sirdars, which had been, he believed, a very fair one, and free from many of the evils attendant on the system of recruiting by contractors, more difficult in every way, if not absolutely impossible. To mention one or two things. The Bill provided that the owner or agent of an estate should give the garden-sirdar a power of attorney. He was to have a certificate which he was to show to the Magistrate of the district in which he was about to recruit, and he was also to have a power of attorney which was to remain in force for a period of six months. Now, Mr. Robinson really did not see how anybody could with any confidence or any safety trust a document like a power of attorney to a garden-sirdar who was himself nothing but a coolie. Then the next difficulty was this, that when the garden-sirdar arrived at the district in which he was to recruit, he was to present himself to the Magistrate. There his credentials were to be examined, and the Magistrate was to inquire into the facts stated in the certificate. The garden-sirdar and the Magistrate might be in the remotest part of Chota Nagpore; the facts were, perhaps, in the remotest part of Cachar or Assam. Mr. Robinson therefore wondered by what possible process the Magistrate was to inquire into the facts set out in the documents shown to him, except by a reference to Cachar or Assam for information, the receipt of which would take very nearly the whole of the six months allowed for the remaining in force of this certificate and power of attorney. Then another point was, that under this power of attorney, assuming that anybody was so rash as to give a power of attorney to a man of that class, the sirdar was to sign the contract with the laborer, instead of its being signed as at present by the agents of the tea garden in Calcutta, or the contractor or some responsible party in

Calcutta. That was a power which no tea planter could possibly put in the hands of the class of men employed as garden-sirdars. And it seemed to MR. ROBINSON that this provision alone (there were many others almost equally objectionable) would make it perfectly impossible for the system of recruitment by garden-sirdars to be continued. He was not aware that it had been said that recruiting by garden-sirdars was in any way objectionable. All the information had showed that it had been very successful; the coolies so recruited had been healthy and strong, they had been efficient when they arrived at the gardens, and the system on the whole had worked satisfactorily in every way.

We next came to the question of the transport of emigrants; and here again the provisions of the Bill were made more stringent than they had been hitherto. In fact, it seemed to him perfectly clear that if the restrictions in the Bill were made law, no emigrants would ever be conveyed to the tea districts by steamers, and the whole transport of emigrants must be made by boat. It would appear from the manner in which the vessel was to be controlled in the interests of the coolie, as if there were no other human beings being conveyed in the steamer, and no other interests concerned in the voyage. The owner of the vessel, the owners of the cargo, private passengers, and even the officers of the Government who had to rejoin their appointments possibly after leave and with no time to spare, were all liable to delay and detention, not on the responsibility of any person on board who was able to judge of the necessity of such detention, but at the discretion of the Magistrate on shore at every station where the vessel was bound to stop, and the Magistrate was entitled to come on board, and on the most cursory inquiry, and the fact of two or three emigrants happening to be ill, was entitled, at his discretion, to detain the vessel for an indefinite period. There was no rate of passage which the owners of steam vessels would undertake to charge for emigrants with those restrictions in full force which planters could possibly afford to pay for conveying emigrants to the tea districts; and the result would therefore be that the transport of emigrants by steam vessels would altogether cease. Those which he had mentioned seemed to him especially unnecessary restrictions. Surely, if people were travelling in steamers to the tea districts, and it was necessary that their health should be most carefully looked after, the natural course would be to give that protection on board, by providing for the emigrants as efficient medical attendance as it was possible to obtain; and from inquiries which he had made, he believed that the most efficient medical attendance could be got. And he believed that greater and more complete protection could be obtained by giving them that medical care on board the vessel itself during the whole voyage, than by the casual protection afforded by the Bill in the powers given to Magistrates at the places where the vessel might be bound to stop. Setting the question of humanity aside, no one could be so much interested in the health of the emigrants as the planters, who had paid for their recruitment and transport, and they were perfectly ready to pay any reasonable expense for providing the most efficient medical attendance that could be got. Now, he would beg the members of the Council to consider this point as one of the most serious importance, and to weigh what he had said on the subject; and he thought hon'ble members would agree with him that the plan he proposed for the protection of the emigrants whilst in transit on board steam vessels was far better than that contained in the Bill.

Then, to leave the question of transport to the tea districts. The only point remaining to be noticed was that which dealt with the emigrant after his arrival at the place of destination. As to that he had nothing very particular to remark except that there was a general increasing of the expenses, and a general tightening of the restrictions imposed on the planter, as if sufficient protection had not hitherto been given to the emigrant; the only point to which he would particularly refer was that the Bill introduced a system of vicarious punishment, which appeared to him to be new and scarcely fair, namely, the making penalties and fines inflicted on servants when absent from the control of their masters realizable upon the gardens of those whom they served. It scarcely seemed to him to be a fair principle that any man should

be held responsible for the acts of his servants when hundreds of miles beyond his control to the extent proposed by this Bill. There were two or three sections in the Bill that provided for such a mode of punishment in different ways, and he thought they required to be taken into serious consideration.

On the occasion of the passing of the existing Act the principal point of discussion with SIR WILLIAM GREY, the late Lieutenant-Governor, and which was also the subject of a petition from the Landholders' Association to the Viceroy, was the extension of the emigrant rules to the laborers so long as they remained in the tea districts. He was led to believe from what fell from His Honor the President on a former occasion that all such restrictions were to be removed; but as far as he saw, those restrictions were only removed in respect of time-expired emigrants, who might enter into new contracts for periods not exceeding six months. As far as he knew there was no such thing in the tea districts as an engagement for six months. There was no process of tea cultivation or manufacture or anything connected with tea in which the services of laborers for a period of six months were engaged, nor was it at all likely that coolies would ever wish to enter into such engagements, and no engagements were entered into for less than a period of one year. That he mentioned as an objection which occurred in reference to the provisions of the Bill upon this point, but he did hope—he might be mistaken, or there might be some mistake in the apparent intention of the Bill as printed—that that provision was intended to apply so as to exempt all laborers re-engaging for any period of service longer or shorter. He did hope that the Act would be applied in a large and liberal spirit, and that it would be considered that when a man had once emigrated to the tea districts, when he had gained experience of the country, of the climate, of the work to be done, and of the master whom he served, when he deliberately elected to make that country his abode, he would be left to the protection of the laws, whose protection he enjoyed in common with every one else in every part of the country. That he trusted would be the real intention shadowed forth in the remarks of His Honor the President to which Mr. Robinson had referred.

A great deal had been said of late on the subject of precipitate legislation and Acts being passed affecting particular portions of the community without affording them the fullest opportunity for discussion. He was perfectly aware that no Act of this Council had ever had that complaint made to it. Three years ago he objected very strongly, on behalf of the Landholders' Association, to a Bill affecting European British subjects, which was brought into Council at Simla, read, passed through Committee, its title changed, and passed into law in about ten days. In the case of this Bill Simla must be looked upon as an abstraction. Calcutta was quite a Simla to the tea planters in remote parts of Cachar and Assam. He had put the Bill in circulation the very day he got it; but even up to this time there had hardly been time for copies of the Bill to arrive at many of the tea gardens; and it would take a very long time before gentlemen interested in the subject would be able to consider the Bill carefully and send down statements of their views to their representatives in Calcutta. He would therefore suggest as an amendment, that instead of the Committee being required to report on the Bill in one month, the time for the submission of the Committee's report should be extended to three months.

[HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT observed that an amendment of that kind would more properly be made at a subsequent stage of the proceedings.]

THE HON'BLE MR. ROBINSON continued.—He did not intend to make any charge of precipitancy or to suggest that there was any desire to pass any Bill in this Council without the public being allowed the fullest opportunity of examining its provisions and expressing opinions upon them. He merely wished to state the circumstances under which it appeared to him that this Bill would require a very long period for consideration. Whilst he regretted the introduction of any Bill at all on this subject, he regretted also its being brought in at a late period of the sittings of the Council, and he hoped it would not be attempted to pass this Bill into law until the commencement of the sittings in the ensuing cold season.

THE HON'BLE MOULVY ABDOOL LUTEEF said.—He begged to express his cordial approval of this Bill, which, in his humble judgment, went a great way in solving the one difficulty peculiar to Bengal, namely, that of affording that degree of mediation between the employers of labor and their imported laborers, which would seem fair to both the interests concerned. He had paid particular attention to some portions of the Bill, and considered them a decided improvement upon the old law of 1863 and 1870. The introduction of the new system of recruitment by means of garden-sirdars, as explained in chapter 3, Part II, was a new feature in the system of providing coolies for the tea-making districts of the Lower Provinces, and one which he thought should be far more satisfactory to the planting body than the old much-abused agency of recruiters.

If planters understood their own interests, it was, he thought, clear to him that gradually the mode of recruitment by means of garden-sirdars would supersede every other mode hitherto practised.

It was also a great advance to have got rid of the medium of the Superintendent of Labor Transport in the granting of licenses to recruiters and the substitution of the District Magistrate in his stead.

But the point on which he considered the Bill to be entitled to the highest commendation was that in which provision was made for the absolute closing up, so far as imported coolies were concerned, of those gardens in which the mortality was ascertained to have exceeded seven per cent. in twelve months, or five per cent. in three years. This was a bold decisive step in advance of the old law.

There might possibly be technical points here and there requiring alteration, but these could be easily discussed and rectified in committee.

THE HON'BLE MR. COLVIN said he need not supplement the speech of his hon'ble friend on his right with any lengthy remarks of his own upon the Bill now before the Council; Mr. Robinson had dealt with the subject far more forcibly and ably than Mr. Colvin could, but Mr. Colvin wished to state briefly the views with which he regarded both the general question of legislating anew upon the matter and the particular changes proposed to be introduced.

First, with regard to the general question. He had originally observed with some apprehension the notice of an intention to alter Act II of 1870. He was aware that that Act was the legislative result of the deliberations of the local Government and the Council for a series of years; he had been given to understand that that Act had been found to work well on the whole, to deal fairly and justly between the several classes to whom it applied, to subserve satisfactorily the purpose of encouraging by means of imported labour, while sufficiently protecting the emigrant, the extension of tea cultivation which had now become so powerful an element in the trade of the country, and he had not heard of any serious complaints or objections to the provisions of the Bill. Moreover, the Bill dealt with somewhat difficult problems of administration and complex questions of the relations between capital and labour, between employer and servants, and he felt considerable doubt as to the desirability of altering in any way a system which had scarcely been in practice long enough to be thoroughly tried, and of introducing the disturbing element of change into rules which had only been established long enough to become thoroughly known and understood. The hon'ble member in charge (Mr. Beaufort) had stated that certain defects had been found in practice to exist, but in the absence of any information as to the extent and importance of these defects, Mr. Colvin was scarcely able to satisfy himself as to the advantage of fresh legislation on the subject, even though he was ready to admit there was room for improvement.

Next, as to the particular changes. When the hon'ble member in charge asked leave to introduce the Bill, Mr. Colvin had received with satisfaction the assurance that the Council would recognise an old friend, with figure and fashion only slightly changed; when again the hon'ble member was about formally to present our former friend in his new costume to the Council, and to ask a Committee to report upon his present appearance, Mr. Colvin had felt it his duty to say that he thought it would be becoming to allow some of the old companions

and acquaintances in the outside world to express their opinions upon his altered aspect, so as to ascertain if they were generally commendatory or critical. Speaking for himself, he must say that the changes proposed, though taken singly, were not very great, yet on the aggregate they seemed to form a larger scheme of modification than the remarks of the hon'ble member had led him to expect, and they were some of them of a character just the opposite to what he should have expected. His belief was that the system of importing labor into the tea districts had now become sufficiently settled, and the relations of planters and laborers had been found to be so far mutually beneficial, and the needs of proprietors of gardens had now become so moderate in extent, that any change should be rather in the direction of relaxing previous rules than imposing fresh restrictions. He thought it would be admitted at once without discussing details that such restrictions would be imposed by the new Bill as it stood; such, for instance, as the wide power of control given to the local officers as to the licenses of contractors' recruiters—a power of control which up to a certain point was essential, but if carried as far as proposed, would probably stop such recruiting altogether; such again as the stipulations with regard to garden-sirdars producing powers of attorney from their employers, and their employers being made pecuniarily responsible for their proceedings,—stipulations which would certainly check rather than foster that system of recruiting; such again as the power to the local Government to prescribe and publish rules or regulations regarding sixteen separate subjects in connection with the working of the Bill—rules which it would be much better to define at once in a schedule; such again as the requisition as to steamers conveying emigrants awaiting the permission of the Magistrate to proceed at every station on the way—requisitions which would almost prohibit their conveyance at all by steamers; and such, finally, as the enhancement of fees and the reduction of the period for payment of arrears of wages.

On the other hand, the provision as to the inspection by medical officers at the port of embarkation of men recruited by garden-sirdars, appeared a very needful and proper provision, and the liberation from contract rules of the time-expired emigrant was a very desirable measure.

THE HON'BLE MEMBER, MR. BEAUFORT, had been pleased to invite Mr. Colvin to be on the Select Committee to consider the Bill; he most willingly tendered any small services he could render in that respect, but he ventured to think the hon'ble member proposed a rather impracticable task in instructing the Committee to report in a month; he was quite sure that a number of papers would be, if they had not already been, received relating to the Bill, and it would be impossible to do justice to their consideration in so short a time. It was true, as the hon'ble member had said that most of the principles of the Bill were settled when the last Act was passed, but as Mr. Colvin had taken occasion to say before, the introduction of the new Bill had re-opened the whole question on the public mind, and many of those principles would probably be discussed again; therefore he thought it would be more nearly three months than one month before the Committee could arrive at a satisfactory conclusion.

Lastly, he would say that in stating certain grounds of objection, both on general principles and as to special points, he trusted that the Hon'ble President and the Council, as well as the hon'ble member in charge, would acquit him of any desire to check the due course of legislation; his only and sincere wish was to suggest caution in altering a course only recently marked out and hitherto followed in comparative if not complete safety, and if it be altered, to endeavour, so far as he could, to guide it in the right direction. If he could assist in doing this, he would be more than satisfied.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said, it was to him, as representing the Government, a subject of great regret to find that the Bill which had been laid before the Council had caused alarm to those interested in the great tea industry. It was but fair that he should inform the Council that we had received, too late to lay before the members in detail, a letter from the Chamber of Commerce, also conceived in a spirit somewhat hostile to the Bill which we had introduced. He felt somewhat disappointed by the receipt of

that letter; he felt somewhat disappointed by the remarks of the hon'ble members who had just so forcibly and so ably spoken. He thought there was some misunderstanding in the matter. He was sure that the intention of the Government was not hostile to the planting interest; it was certainly not hostile to giving facilities for emigration to Assam and the other tea districts. For himself he would say that if it were possible, without a great sacrifice of human life and without a great sacrifice of human freedom, without injustice to the poorer and more ignorant classes, if it were possible so to regulate emigration as in a short period to treble the population of Assam, he should himself most gladly do so. He thought that if they could conduct emigration under safe rules which would be just to the coolies and also to the planters, emigration from the populous districts to the sparsely-populated districts of Assam and other tea districts would be the greatest possible object to be attained and a great advantage to all parties. He should be sorry indeed to suppose that our new legislation was designed to change the existing law in a manner unfair and disadvantageous to the great interest now developing those countries which had hitherto been given up to jungle and wild beasts. The object of the Government was nothing of the kind; their object was in no degree to deter emigration, but to facilitate emigration in a fair spirit and on fair conditions. The reason for introducing a new Bill was this, that the old Bill—the Bill passed in 1870—having been now some three years in operation, we had experience of its practical working, and we had seen that there were some points which practical experience had shown required amendment. Our whole object was to amend the existing law in those particular points; and our old friend had assumed a new face, because, having the advantage of the assistance of the hon'ble member whose skill and legal knowledge were great, we had taken the opportunity to re-cast the Bill in a shape in which we hoped it might be more easily understood and more easily workable to the benefit of the parties concerned. His Honor admitted now, and he admitted on a former occasion, that the changes which had been introduced in the Bill were not without importance; but at the same time he would say that their chief aim and object was not to alter and reverse previous legislation on the subject, but to amend and secure it in such a manner as to do justice to all parties.

One of the most important points in which the law required amendment was as to time-expired emigrants. He might say that after three years' trial the present law in regard to time-expired laborers had not worked at all; that we did not know what laborers were subject to the existing law, and what laborers were not subject to it. Our returns of laborers, ours means of inspection, our knowlege of the statistics and condition of the coolies subject to the law, were altogether vitiated and made of little worth on account of the extreme difficulty of working the present law in regard to time-expired coolies. That was one difficulty.

Another difficulty was that we had not attained the means of conveying coolies to the tea districts with safety to their health, and reasonable precautions against excessive mortality. He deeply grieved to say that, under present circumstances, the mortality was still very excessive. He grieved to say that during the last year and this year we were called upon to meet cases in which excessive mortality from cholera had occurred in the steamers proceeding to Assam. He believed that the provisions contained in the Bill enabling the authorities to stop steamers were not new, but were a re-enactment of provisions which were found in the existing law, and which were now put in force. The hon'ble member alluded to the power of stopping steamers in transit as a novelty in the present Bill. He could only say that at present the authorities did stop them, and that they found it necessary to do so. He grieved to say that the very last instance, of which he had just received news, was that of a steamer which had got no further than Goalpara, the very gate of Assam, and had already lost 46 coolies from cholera. It was thought absolutely necessary that the steamer should be stopped, and that the coolies should be debarked, and endeavours made to eradicate that terrible disease from amongst them. The present law did not enable us to deal sufficiently with such cases in all respects, and some amendments were necessary.

Another point was that a garden might be so unhealthy that it would be most unfair and most inhuman to force a laborer under a contract made at a time when he had no knowledge of the garden to remain in that garden. Possibly it could not be said that the garden was absolutely unfit for any human habitation,and yet it might be most unfair to force these imported laborers to remain there. These and one or two other points were points in respect of which we found the existing law required amendment. The Bill was drawn with the object of remedying these defects, and we had taken the opportunity to dress our old friend in a manner in which he hoped he would be recognised after a little further acquaintance. But we had not designed to legislate in a manner hostile to the tea interests.

When His Honor looked to the other points to which exception had been taken as showing that hostility to the tea interests which the hon'ble members seemed to apprehend, he could only say that as far as the Government was concerned they were innocent of the designs attributed to them. As regards the system of recruiting by garden-sirdars, he might for himself say, as the hon'ble member on the left (Moulvie Abdool Luteef) had said, that he believed that the system, duly regulated and properly worked, was an excellent system. We were far from anxious to check it; but if the Select Committee to whom the Bill would be referred (if the Council should think fit to refer the Bill to a Committee) should find that the provisions of the Bill regarding this branch of the subject would unduly check emigation by means of garden-sirdars, he should be very glad to accept the improvement and amend that part of the Bill which they might suggest. The only changes in regard to the system of recruiting and transit by garden-sirdars which he was conscious of promoting, were, first, that the recruiter should be licensed by the Magistrate who had the best means of knowing his character and qualifications, that was, the Magistrate of the district of which from his residence he was a native, and in which he would recruit; and secondly, that we should have the means of meeting a difficulty—an extremely practical difficulty—which had been fouud, viz. that the coolies recruited by garden-sirdars were now by law allowed to proceed in steamers along with the contractors' coolies, and yet were not subject to the same regulations as the other coolies. The consequence was that the main body of the coolies were under supervision and control, and they might, to a certain extent, be ascertained to be free from infectious diseases; while on the other hand we had no power and authority over the garden-sirdars' coolies. Disease might be and had been introduced by these coolies. That was one most practical evil which the Bill sought to remedy. He hoped that the Bill, as it eventually emerged from the Council, would not contain any over-burdensome provision such as had been alluded to with regard to powers-of-attorney and other matters which could be avoided. He hoped that the provisions would be retained which enabled the Magistrate of the district simply to ascertain that the man was known in his village as a respectable man and was not a fraudulent touter, and on its being ascertained that the man was a respectable man, he would receive the Magistrate's license and would be free to recruit coolies to be conveyed to Assam under conditions most favorable to the coolies and most favorable to the planters.

Well, then, the hon'ble member opposite (Mr. Robinson) said, that if the provisions of the Bill were enforced, steamers would not be found to convey coolies to Assam. His Honor understood him to say that there were parties besides the coolies whose interests should be consulted—the interests of owners, passengers, and other parties. But His Honor thought he might say that as regards the upward voyage to Assam, coolies were in fact the main object of the running of these steamers. He believed that very heavy cargo was not carried upwards in these steamers. He believed that ordinary passengers were not the most important part of the cargo. He believed that the steamers and the two and three-storied flats which we saw upon these rivers, were in fact emigrant ships designed to carry coolies. He believed that the coolies carried on the upward voyage were generally the principal source of profit to these steamers. And it was fair and proper and necessary that the owners of the steamers should

look to the safety and security of the coolies as the first object. He had told the Council that under the present system the safety of the coolies was not ensured, that the mortality had been very great and excessive, and he thought that the Council would not consider that he was in wrong in asking them to assist him in making rules tending to do what could be done to check mortality on the upward voyage.

Another point mentioned was the increase of fees. He admitted that it was proposed to increase the fees, and he would say that it was fair and necessary to do so. Although he admitted that emigration was a thing to be encouraged, he would at the same time say that emigration to Assam was connected with private commercial speculation. Tea planters, although they were pioneers of civilization and developers of the resources of the country, did not act from purely benevolent and humanitarian motives alone. They also looked to commercial considerations and profit, and the present law had ruled that the expenses connected with the system should be borne by those for whose private advantage the system had been inaugurated and conducted. It had been found that the fees were such that the labor transport fund had been insolvent, and a burden had thus been thrown upon the Government which it was never intended that Government should bear. It was but fair that the cost should be paid by the parties interested in the matter, and to effect this it was necessary that the fees should be increased.

He would refer again to that very important subject of time-expired laborers. He was quite ready to say that if the Committee and the gentlemen interested in the subject, upon consideration, found that on the whole it was most advisable for all parties that time-expired laborers should be absolutely freed from any special provisions of the law whatever, he believed the Government would not be unwilling to give fair consideration to that proposal. For himself, he could only say that if insuperable difficulties should not be found, he should not be altogether unwilling to accept a proposal of that kind. But the gentlemen making a proposal of that kind must remember that they must take the good and the bad together. They must remember that if the time-expired laborers were freed from the provisions of the law on one side, they must also be freed on the other; that if contracts with free laborers were not to be protected by special laws, employers would have no special remedies, and would have no means of enforcing a contract by any summary process. It was a question whether in these districts where the Civil Courts were so sparsely situated and scarce, where justice was slow and not altogether sure, it would not be better for all parties that there should be some summary laws which would enable Magistrates to adjudicate cases between employers and laborers. If gentlemen interested in tea and the development of the country considered that it was better that these special laws on both sides should be swept away and the parties should be left to the control of the ordinary laws and the ordinary remedies of the law, then the Government, supposing no great difficulties occurred, possibly would not be unwilling to accept that view. But that was a view which he thought should be very carefully considered in Committee; and he had no doubt that the Committee, composed as it would be of representatives of various interests concerned, as well as of members of the Government, would come to a fair and just and safe solution of this important subject.

Then, with regard to the necessity of giving plenty of time for the consideration of the Bill in Committee, he would say that the Government had not the slightest intention of hurrying this Bill through the Council. The hon'ble member in charge of the Bill had put on the paper a motion that the Committee should report in one month. With regard to that HIS HONOR might say that the Bill had not been considered letter by letter by the Government; there might be room for misunderstanding it. Some provisions in the Bill which were not intended to have a hostile or injurious effect, had been considered by the hon'ble gentlemen, and those interested in the cultivation of tea, as having such an effect. In asking that the Committee should report within one month, he had not the least idea that the final report of the Committee should be presented within one month; but rather the

proposal was made with this view, that the Committee having considered the more salient points of the Bill, that the members specially interested in the tea districts having met the members who represented the views of the Government, the more salient questions might be brought out, the more salient difficulties might be got over, and the more salient misunderstandings might be met. His view would be that within a moderate time a preliminary report should be arrived at by the Committee and the Bill might be republished in a revised shape. Misunderstanding having been explained and eliminated, then the Bill in its revised shape might be republished and submitted to the consideration of the public for a considerable period; and after the expiration of that period the Council might again consider the Bill more fully in detail, after having had before them varied suggestions which they might expect to receive from many quarters. Well, that was the view with which the Government placed this Bill before the Council, not in any view hostile to emigration, but in order to permit emigration in a safe and just manner. We were anxious that the matter should be temperately and adequately considered; that sufficient time should be given for its consideration; and we did not desire to show any bigotry in the matter either on one side or the other.

THE HON'BLE MR. ROBINSON said he was naturally very anxious that there should be no misapprehension as to his not being opposed to the fullest protection being afforded to the emigrants in transit. All he contended was that the form of protection afforded by the Bill was not the best that was possible; for he believed that the necessary protection would be better secured without inconvenience to any other parties concerned by more efficient medical attendance being provided on board steamers conveying emigrants. He spoke for himself and with great confidence for all gentlemen interested in the emigration of laborers to the tea districts, when he said that they were entirely willing to do anything that would contribute to the protection of the emigrants on their voyage. All they objected to was that the system of protection approved by Government was not the best, and that it placed great and unnecessary inconvenience on other interests.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said he was sure that the declaration made by the hon'ble member was extremely gratifying. But as regards the special point whether the most effectual remedy to infectious diseases was obtained by placing the emigrants in charge of efficient medical men on board ships, or by giving powers to the local authorities to stop steamers in transit, His Honor would say that it was a most difficult subject which was eminently fitted for the consideration of the Committee. He must at the same time say that he had had considerable opportunities of judging of the result when cholera once broke out on board a crowded cooly steamer, and his experience was opposed to the opinion expressed by the hon'ble member. When cholera broke out in those crowded steamers and flats, he believed that no amount of medical skill could eradicate it during the passage on board. As long as large masses of men were cooped up in a limited space, it was impossible to get rid of cholera when it broke out amongst them. But a most wonderful subsidence of cholera had in several instances occurred when the coolies were debarked. Thus what he might call natural measures for the prevention of the spread of cholera proved far more effectual than any amount of medical skill. But as he had said before, the matter was one for the consideration of the Committee, and he should be sorry indeed to give a positive opinion on a subject on which no man could be positive.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT said that after what had fallen from His Honor the President, it was quite unnecessary that he should reply to the strictures passed upon the general spirit and intentions of the Bill before the Council; and the matters of detail to which hon'ble members had referred were not now before the Council for consideration. Almost everything which had fallen from the hon'ble gentlemen on his right might be referred to a misconception of the provisions, or of the effect of the Bill; but he would refer now to one or two points only.

In regard to the system of recruiting by garden-sirdars it had been objected that no planter would think of giving a power of attorney to any coolie to enter into a contract with the laborers. But he might observe that a power of attorney for the purposes of this Bill was not a general power of attorney, as his hon'ble friends seemed to suppose, but simply a power to do one thing, viz. to sign the contract, and thereby to bind the employer. The ordinary practice was, as he understood, to use printed forms of contract, which could be signed anywhere; and the employer need not be afraid to entrust to the person, whom he thought fit to be a garden-sirdar, the power of binding him to such a contract. The only object of requiring this power of attorney was to uphold the principle that had been enunciated in the earliest legislation on this subject, viz. that no emigrant should be allowed to leave the district in which he was recruited, except under a specific contract with an employer. No doubt the practice had been for the garden-sirdar to bring the coolies down from recruiting districts to Calcutta, and to have the contracts executed here before the agents. But MR. BEAUFORT believed that one of the chief objects of the garden-sirdar system was to obviate the necessity of bringing the emigrants to Calcutta at all. It was intended that they should be taken at once to the port of embarkation, the place at which they were put on board steamers or other vessels for conveyance to the tea districts; and it appeared to him that the execution of the contract in the recruiting district would facilitate the attainment of this object.

Then the hon'ble member objected to the Magistrate being required to inquire into the facts stated in the garden-sirdar's certificate. He said that it would be utterly impossible for a Magistrate in a remote part of Chota Nagpore to inquire into facts existing in the tea districts. MR. BEAUFORT quite agreed with the hon'ble member, and there was no wish that the Magistrate should do so. Section 51 of the Bill referred to the Magistrate in the tea district, and not to the Magistrate in the remote recruiting district. When the garden-sirdar had received a certificate from his employer, he was to take it to the Magistrate, and the Magistrate was to countersign the certificate after inquiring into the facts. The Magistrate in the recruiting district would not make any such inquiry at all; but the Magistrate in the labor district must see that the garden-sirdar was a proper person to be employed in the recruiting of laborers, in the same way as with regard to contractors' recruiters the Magistrate of the district in which the recruiter resided should see that the person employed was a proper person to be employed in recruiting emigrants.

He might also repeat what had been already observed by His Honor the President, that the rules empowering a Magistrate to detain a steamer in transit were exactly the same as those contained in the present law. The power so vested in the Magistrate was, moreover, placed under certain restrictions, for he was required to make an immediate report of everything he had done, and certainly the Magistrate would not venture to interfere without some very strong reason for doing so. But there was nothing in the Bill which required the Magistrate to detain the steamer; if it were necessary, he might cause the emigrants to disembark, but he would allow the vessel to proceed on its voyage. It had been said that the proper course was to insist on providing sufficient medical officers on board the vessel; but the hon'ble member had probably overlooked a new section in the Bill which made it unlawful to carry a certain number of emigrants without a qualified medical officer. The presence of a skilled doctor would not, however, in all cases obviate the necessity of disembarking the emigrants.

Then, as to the hon'ble member's remarks on some sections of the Bill which provided vicarious punishment in certain cases, MR. BEAUFORT might observe that when the tea planter sent down a coolie to induce persons to leave their homes in remote districts for the purpose of becoming laborers in a tea district, he ought to be, and must be held responsible for the acts of the coolie, in matters relating to the recruiting. That appeared to be nothing more than a bare equity required; and it would only impose on the planter the necessity of care in selecting his garden-sirdar.

The only other instances of vicarious punishment that he could remember now were that which made the liabilities of the planter a charge on his estate, and that which made steamers or vessels employed in conveying emigrants liable for fines imposed on the officers commanding those vessels. It appeared to him that those provisions were just and equitable in principle, and very necessary to retain in the interests of emigrants. Where the Magistrate, not desiring to detain a vessel, found it necessary to impose a fine on the commanding officer, he would allow the vessel to proceed, and would recover the fine if it were not paid by subsequent attachment of the vessel.

Then, as to the question of time-expired laborers, he could only assure hon'ble members that the provisions of the Bill were simply what they professed to be. It was suggested that they might cover some object which did not appear; but he did not understand what was meant by this. The Bill provided that when the period of contract had expired, it should be wholly optional with the laborers to put themselves either under the rules of the law or to keep themselves entirely free. If the laborers entered into a contract for six months, they placed themselves under the protection of the law; but if they did not wish to place themselves under the protection of the law, they made no contract or only entered into contracts for shorter periods. The hon'ble member believed that no contract was made for less than a year. MR. BEAUFORT had had the advantage of the experience of a gentleman from the tea districts, who told him that the general period of the season was nine months. It might be that the Select Committee, with the information which would be placed before them, might consider that the period should be extended to nine months or a year; but whatever the period might be, the object was to give the laborer the option of remaining entirely free, or of placing himself under the protection of the law.

The Motion was agreed to.

THE HON'BLE MR. BEAUFORT moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Messrs. Schalch, Bernard, Colvin, Robinson, Degumber Mitter, and the Mover, with instructions to report in one month.

HIS HONOR THE PRESIDENT said he hoped the Council would not object to the motion, with the understanding that the time fixed for the submission of the Committee's report was merely nominal, and that the Bill could then be republished with the amendments made by the Committee.

The Motion was agreed to.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 15th instant.

PUBLIC WORKS PROVINCIAL BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1873-74.

RESOLUTION.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Calcutta, the 18th March 1873.

1. The Lieutenant-Governor having now seen most parts of these provinces, and having very fully considered their necessities in regard to public works, has thought it well to review the whole situation in this respect before settling the Public Works budget for the year 1873-74. The financial result of the year 1872-73 is not yet known. The assignments in aid of districts, having been liberally made, no doubt exceed the income derived from funds hitherto devoted to that purpose; but it is believed that the expenditure of the Public Works Department proper will probably fall short of, and will certainly not exceed, the assignments. It may therefore be pretty safe to omit for the present the results of the current year, and to consider, *first*, the imperial assignment and the public works income; and *second*, any additional funds available for Public Works expenditure as shown by the last concluded accounts up to 31st March 1872, or granted by subsequent special orders of the Government of India.

2. The portion of the annual imperial assignment to these provinces calculated with reference to the public works expenditure of 1870-71, and therefore fairly attributable to that department, is about 33½ lakhs of rupees, say £335,000.

3. The income from tolls on canals and waterways, and on bridges, ferries, &c., levied on roads maintained from the provincial funds, is about 7 lakhs of rupees, and this income has been, and should be, devoted in some shape to public communications. From other sources, including rents, refunds, &c., there is some further public works income, making a total income in that department of about 8½ lakhs. The total ordinary income composed of the assignment, plus receipts of the department, is thus about 42 lakhs, say £420,000.

4. In clearing up the accounts of the amalgamated district road fund and other funds similarly available, with a view to the new system of account, there were found to be a credit balance of about 16 lakhs, which may be regarded as a sum available for expenditure once for all.

5. The Government of India have agreed to give this Government the capitalised value of several rents paid for public offices as well as the value of the building lately taken for a military hospital, the object being to supply the place of rented buildings by building Government offices. On account of these capitalised rents, including the Calcutta Small Cause Court and a Judge's Court at Midnapore, about 11 lakhs are now available.

6. Finally, as has been explained in the Administration Report, not from the want of ample opportunities for spending, but because of the very greatness of the necessities of these great provinces, and the difficulty of meeting them from the comparatively small annual assignment, the Lieutenant-Governor thought it necessary in the first year of his administration to exercise extreme care and caution in this department, and not to launch out till he thoroughly understood the subject and had systematised and classified the works and the accounts. There resulted a considerable saving on the public works assignments for 1871-72, exceeding 7 lakhs of rupees.

7. These sums make about 34 lakhs of rupees, say £340,000, which may be called extraordinary funds available for public works. Taking ordinary and extraordinary together, about 76 lakhs, say £760,000, appear to be available.

From this we have only to deduct any amount by which the grants-in-aid to districts in the present year may be found to have caused a deficit.

8. It might not be absolutely necessary to devote all these funds to public works; some of them might perhaps have been diverted to other and equally useful purposes. But, on the other hand, several considerations have seemed to the Lieutenant-Governor to point to the course of devoting these funds for the present mainly to what may be called their original and primary object. It would scarcely be right to divert them without good reason. The necessities of public works in so vast a territory are greater than the funds as yet at our disposal can meet. And what has principally weighed with the

Lieutenant-Governor is this, that in other departments he has not the power to incur, and it would not be right that he should incur, annual charges for which he might provide in one year, but for meeting which in future years no provision has been made; while in the Department of Public Works great benefits may be conferred by expenditure on works of a lasting character, and provision for the future is made, inasmuch as the road cess may shortly be expected to supply an income from which works of a local character once made may be maintained, and the provincial assignment may be set free for larger works and other necessary purposes.

9. If, again, this money is to be devoted to public works, it has seemed to the Lieutenant-Governor to be altogether for the benefit of the country that it should be made to fructify as soon as possible, instead of remaining idle in the treasury, which pays no interest. In anticipation of the new arrangements connected with the road cess, and with a view to general efficiency, the Public Works establishments have been lately organised on a localised system which has been attended with a considerable extension and, it is hoped, greatly increased efficiency. Meantime, the collection of the road cess has been postponed for some months, so that there is a sort of interregnum during which our local establishments are ready, but our local money is not. The Lieutenant-Governor has promised to enable the local officers to carry on the useful works they had taken in hand in expectation of the early collection of the road cess, and it is very desirable that he should provide the funds for this object.

10. Looking, then, to the whole situation, it seems to the Lieutenant-Governor to be best that he should not hoard the money available, but should spend as much as the Public Works establishments can efficiently, economically, and usefully expend, drawing on the extraordinary funds at his disposal for so much as exceeds the ordinary income of the year.

11. In this view the budget estimate of the Public Works Department has been drawn upon a comparatively liberal scale, though that scale is still extremely small in comparison to the territories, and will after all admit of but very moderate extension of necessary works.

12. First, it is of course necessary to provide for the repairs of existing buildings, roads, &c. This has been duly done at a cost of about £125,600, of which £91,155 is devoted to the repair of roads and canals. Of new buildings, the most important addition to our ordinary outlay is the provision for jails. It may be said that not one properly constructed jail existed at the beginning of the present financial year in all these provinces, and what has been done or can be done in a single year must be but a very small part of what is required. A sum of £68,757 has, however, been devoted to permanent improvements of our jails in the provision for the ensuing year, exclusive of establishments and repairs.

13. A provision of £17,500 has been made to carry on the new Presidency College during the year.

14. All the other building provisions from ordinary funds are comparatively small. A few new court-houses are being built at various district stations, but not nearly all which are demanded and are really required.

15. There is, however, a considerable assignment for Secretariat Offices and the new Small Cause Court in Calcutta, which, as well as the provision for a court at Midnapore, will be met from the special funds obtained by grant from the Government of India by way of capitalisation of the rents now paid. About £61,700, in addition to a proportion of cost of establishments, &c., will be thus spent under the head of 'other buildings,' but will not form a charge against the ordinary income of the year. Adding together these charges, we have a total of £187,886 devoted to new buildings.

16. In the last Administration Report, the principal roads and canals maintained as provincial are shown as now classified, and that list is appended to this resolution.

17. Under the head of communications, the new works proposed involve an expenditure of £100,869, of which £9,154 is the sum given to canals, and the remainder to roads. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes to arrange for the further development of the water communications of Bengal, the existing canals being both useful and profitable. But the subject involves considerations of extreme difficulty: plans did not exist, and till they are carefully elaborated, much cannot

be done. Particular attention is being given to the possible improvement, or even canalisation, of the Soorma, the river leading up to Sylhet and Cachar, and now navigable by steamer to those places in the rainy season only. The present budget already contains provision for the commencement of a canal to connect the Khasi Hills (abounding in minerals and potatoes) with the Soorma. Some improvements are proposed in the existing canals, and help has been promised to some of the local committees, especially those of Dacca and Chittagong, who contemplate important local canals to open the direct route between the Eastern Bengal Railway and Dacca, and to give access to Chittagong by a route free from the perils of the open sea.

18. As regards roads, the principle followed has been to do most in those districts which, needing most development, are least able to help themselves. The Lieutenant-Governor has also felt that money is much better spent on substantial roads in districts where the supply of metal is good and cheap, and *where* roads once made can be easily maintained, rather than in those where passable roads can only be maintained at an enormous cost by continually laying down bricks which soon wear out. It generally happens, too, that the laterite districts are those most wanting in water communication, while the alluvial districts, where there is no metal, have many water-ways. The Lieutenant-Governor is inclined to think that in rich and populous districts where there is no metal, a light railway will prove in the end more economical, as well as incomparably more efficient, than a brick road wherever there is much land traffic. The question whether rails may properly be laid on some of existing roads is one of much difficulty, which is still under consideration.

19. With these views, then, the money available for new roads has been distributed as follows :—

	£
Calcutta roads	2,600
South-Western trunk road	2,500
North-Western ,, ...	2,900
Gya and Patna road	5,000
Chota Nagpore system of roads	25,400
Northern Tipperah road	22,500
North-Eastern road	1,200
Assam roads	21,000
Sylhet and Cachar road	3,000
Chittagong road	500
Minor road works	5,000
Total ...	91,700

20. An important bridge is in course of construction on the road between Patna and Gya, the great place of pilgrimage. When this is finished that road will be complete, metalled and bridged throughout. It is possible that rails may eventually be laid on this road, on which the traffic is very large.

21. The road from Caragola on the Ganges above Rajmehal to Purneah and Darjeeling has long been in a partially completed state, the communication being generally maintained by temporary bridges which are now failing. Seeing that this road lies through rich and important districts, that it is so far from the course of the proposed Northern Bengal Railway that it will not be superseded by it for local purposes, and that it must be some years before it can be superseded by that railway for the traffic between Calcutta and Darjeeling, the Lieutenant-Governor has thought that this road should be maintained, and that whatever is to be done should be done as quickly as possible, in order that the greatest amount of use may be made of it before the railway comes into play. He has therefore much urged on the completion of the light iron bridges which are taking the place of the wooden ones fallen or falling. He has also not hesitated to complete the hill cart road, which has been much injured by land slips, and needs much remodelling and improvement. Upwards of £22,500 is thus devoted to the Ganges and Darjeeling road, taking both the plains and hill portions.

22. The bridges in the plains portion are calculated to bear a light engine in case rails should some day be laid. If in this way direct communication could be established between the western coolie-producing districts and the Northern Bengal Railway, and a branch of the latter should lead to Assam, a great step

would be gained towards developing the eastern districts and saving the lives of the hundreds of coolies who now perish by cholera and other diseases in the river steamers.

23. Whether a railway shall be made up the Assam valley, the Government of India must decide. But the Lieutenant-Governor is decidedly of opinion that nothing but a railway scale of expenditure will suffice to make a trunk road fitted to compete with the river traffic, and that a railway only would recompense such expenditure. He has therefore not attempted seriously to carry on what is called the Assam grand trunk road, but has given about £10,000 for the improvement of such portions of it as are of much local use, and for the completion of a line sufficient for the postal runners. He has given another £10,000 to be distributed in opening local roads in the tea districts. Altogether £21,035 have been given in the budget for 1873 for new roads or new works on roads in Assam.

24. The Chota Nagpore districts are in many ways most important; with a fine climate, an excellent and most productive population, most valuable minerals and other products, and two military stations, it is very important that they should be opened out, and should no longer be cut off from the world as they have hitherto been. While there is no water communication, the soil is admirably adapted for good and cheap roads; bridges only are required to render these districts accessible by roads very easily maintained. The Lieutenant-Governor has then thought it right to do something for this object, and proposes to complete two lines of communication from Giridee to Hazareebaugh, and then to Ranchee on one side, and from the railway junction near the Barakur to Pooroolea and Ranchee on the other, while the district committees will carry further roads of a humbler character. Altogether £25,400 is given for the construction of the Chota Nagpore system of roads.

25. Road works of less size and importance in various places, including some improvements in Calcutta, the completion of causeways on the unbridged rivers on the south-western trunk road to Cuttack, and the Sylhet-Cachar road, absorb the remaining £18,000 of road money.

26. The sum of £20,000 is provided in the budget for miscellaneous public improvements of all kinds.

27. For grants-in-aid to local committees, the sum of £100,000 is provided.

28. All the sums above detailed are for works exclusive of the establishments by which they are carried on and superintended; about 25 per cent. of the cost of works must be added for establishments. And it must be explained that the Public Works establishments now do a large portion of the work of the district committees, which work is not shown in the provincial budget. For the present, while the funds of the committees are so limited, no charge is made on them for this service. In practice, therefore, this is an addition to the grants to districts.

For the cost of establishments, then, £131,400 is provided, as well £6,055 for tools and plant.

The total charge to the provincial revenues under the above headings, as set forth in the abstracts attached to this resolution, is £671,899.

For this expenditure the Lieutenant-Governor proposes to provide as follows:—

	£
Current annual assignment and income	420,000
From capitalised grants, including share of establishments, &c., debitable to buildings constructed from this source	80,000
From accumulated balances of amalgamated road fund, &c. ...	100,000
The balance from the savings of the year 1871-72	71,899
Total ...	671,899

This leaves some margin as compared to the total sum above mentioned as available, and it generally happens that some unspent balances remain at the end of the year. It may therefore be hoped that as much work is provided as our establishments (which are not yet quite completely consolidated) can safely and thoroughly do, while at the same time there is no risk of exceeding our means.

LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL ROADS AND WATER COMMUNICATIONS MAINTAINED FROM PROVINCIAL FUNDS.

ROADS.

1. *Southern Road.*—From Calcutta through the 24-Pergunnahs District to Diamond Harbour, the Head-Quarters of a Sub-Division and the site of one of the new batteries for the defence of the River Hooghly.

2. *South-Western Trunk Road.*—From Calcutta by Midnapore through Orissa, bifurcating from a point near Cuttack to Ganjam in the Madras Presidency and Pooree, the site of the great Temple of Juggernath; including also a more direct connection with the above line from the North-Western Provinces by a branch, leaving the East Indian Railway Station at Raneegunge and passing *viâ* Bancoorah to Midnapore.

3. *North-Western Trunk Road.*—From Calcutta to the frontier of the North-Western Provinces. In connection with this a road leads to Gya, the great place of Hindoo pilgrimage, and connects Gya with the city of Patna and the East Indian Railway. From Patna again a road leads on to Mozufferpore, chief town of the great district of Tirhoot.

4. *The Chota Nagpore system of Roads.*—Consisting of a line of road from the Seetarampore junction of the East Indian Railway to Purulia, chief town of the Maunbhoom District, and on to Ranchee, head-quarters of the Chota Nagpore Commissionership. And another line from the Girhidee terminus of the East Indian Railway to the Cantonment and District Station of Hazareebaugh, with a junction line between Hazareebaugh and Ranchee. Also a line from Hazareebaugh running north to the Grand Trunk Road. There is also a short branch to Parisnauth Hill.

5. *Northern Trunk Road.*—From Caragola on the Ganges, nearly opposite the East Indian Railway Station of Sahibgunge, through Purneah to Darjeeling; with a branch to Julpigooree.

6. *North-Eastern Road.*—From Calcutta by the Military Station of Dum-Dum to Jessore, the chief town of the Jessore District.

7. *Assam Trunk Road.*—From Dobree on the Berhampootra, on the extreme west of Assam, to Suddya near the eastern frontier, with a branch to Shillong and Cheerapoonjee, and hill roads to different outposts on the Garrow, Cossiah and Naga Hills.

8. *Sylhet and Cachar Road.*—From the Station of Sylhet through Cachar to the Muneepore boundary, and a short branch line from Sylhet to Cheerapoonjee.

9. *South-Eastern Trunk Road.*—From Dacca to Chittagong, with a continuation to the Looshai Hills and another towards British Burmah.

CANALS.

1. *Calcutta and Eastern Canals.*—A system of canals connecting various rivers and creeks by which boat communication between Calcutta and the Eastern Districts is maintained.

2. *The Nuddea Rivers.*—One or other of these is kept open according to circumstances, so as to afford water communication between Calcutta and the Northern Districts.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROVINCIAL PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET ESTIMATE OF BENGAL, SHOWING THE ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE DURING THE YEAR 1873-74.

RECEIPTS.	Amount.	Total.
Tolls—	Rs.	Rs.
On Ferries	70,000	
„ Roads	7,000	
„ Nuddea Rivers	2,57,000	
„ Calcutta and Eastern canals	3,66,000	
		7,00,000
Other Receipts—		
Fines and refunds	50,500	
Rent of buildings and lands	64,000	
Sales of produce	1,500	
„ of buildings and tools and plant ...	13,000	
„ of old materials	16,000	
Staging Bungalow receipts	9,000	
Strand Bank Fund	40,000	
		1,94,000
Net grant from provincial funds	.....	58,24,999
		67,18,999

EXPENDITURE.		Amount.	Total.
Original Works—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Civil Buildings	18,78,869		
Communications	10,08,698		
Miscellaneous Public Improvements ...	2,00,000		
		30,87,567	
Repairs—			
Civil Buildings	3,25,300		
Communications	9,11,550		
Miscellaneous Public Improvements ...	20,025		
		12,56,875	
Establishments	.....	13,14,007	
Tools and plant	.....	60,550	
Grants-in-aid to districts	.....	10,00,000	
			67,18,999

SUMMARY OF THE ESTIMATED CHARGES FOR PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE YEAR FROM 1ST APRIL 1873 TO 31ST MARCH 1874.

		Original works.	Repairs.	Establishments.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Civil buildings ...	Jails ...	6,87,579	67,670	1,88,812	9,44,061
	Registration ...	30,000	.....	7,500	37,500
	Police ...	50,000	2,940	13,235	66,175
	Education ...	2,00,000	32,450	58,112	2,90,562
	Medical ...	52,000	15,000	16,750	83,750
	Other buildings ...	8,59,290	2,07,240	2,61,029	13,27,559
	Total ...	18,78,869	3,25,300	5,45,438	27,49,607
Communications ...	Roads	8,17,156	7,60,750	4,69,973	23,90,221
	Canals	91,542	97,300		
	Rivers	.....	53,500		
	Stores from England	1,00,000	.....		
	Total ...	10,08,698	9,11,550	4,69,973	23,90,221
Miscellaneous public improvements ...		2,00,000	20,025	53,850	2,73,875
	Total ...	2,00,000	20,025	53,850	2,73,875
Tools and plant		.....		.....	60,550
Grants-in-aid to districts, &c. ...		10,00,000		2,44,746	12,44,746
	Total PROVINCIAL ...	53,44,442		13,14,007	67,18,999

ABSTRACTION OF HOONDIES IN TRANSIT BY POST.

These papers are republished in the Calcutta Gazette, because they are of general interest, and because somewhat similar cases have occurred in Bengal.

No. 5419, dated Calcutta, the 24th January 1873.

From—F. R. Hogg, Esq., Offg. Deputy Director-Genl. of the Post Office of India,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Intimation having reached me of the abstraction of hoondies from a letter in transit by post, and addressed to Bombay, under very suspicious circumstances, Mr. Turton Smith, a police officer attached to the Postal Department, was deputed specially to investigate the case. His inquiries have brought to light an extensive system of fraud, under which gangs of dishonest men combine by forgeries and false personation to cheat native bankers, whose correspondence they obtain while in transit through the post, by corrupting the subordinates of the Postal Department. Letters thus obtained are altered at will to suit the fraud contemplated.

2. I enclose copy of a communication, No. 0009 dated the 30th December 1872, addressed to this office by Mr. Smith, in which the procedure in frauds of the kind under notice, has been described by an account of three typical cases.

3. The most effective check to the spread of these frauds lies in warning the class of men usually selected by the gangs as their victims, *i.e.*, the native bankers, and in advising them to adopt special precautions when their suspicions may be aroused: this course has been suggested in the 10th paragraph of Mr. Smith's letter, and I trust that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will be pleased to make the matter as widely known as possible, by the use of the vernacular press, by circulating translations of Mr. Smith's letter among the native banking community, or by any other means which may seem proper.

No. 0009, dated Poona, the 30th December 1872.

From—Turton Smith, Esq., Asst. Inspector-General of Police, on duty with Punjab Postal Department,
To—A. M. Monteath, Esq., Director-General of the Post Office of India.

You are aware that cases of cheating by personation, supported by forgeries, committed with the assistance of officials in the Post Office, have occurred recently in the North-West Provinces, Central India, and the Bombay Presidency. I have now information of an attempt made in Madras. Owing to one or two of the frauds having latterly been successful, and to the sudden increase in their numbers, I have reason to fear they may yet extend over a larger area.

2. In order that the method of the frauds may be understood, I gave particulars of three cases which in themselves sufficiently illustrate the whole.

First case.—A, a banker of Dhar, near Indore, carried on business with B, a banker in Bombay. A remitted to B four hoondies, each of the value of Rs. 2,500. The letter and two hoondies were stolen in transit, and the remaining two forwarded with a letter containing the business details of the stolen letter, but intimating remittance of two hoondies only; this letter was signed with a careful imitation of A's signature. B, on receiving the forged letter and the two hoondies, wrote a letter acknowledging the receipt of Rs. 5,000. This letter was intercepted in transit, and the figures altered so as to convey an acknowledgment for Rs. 10,000.

3. During a period of forty days, the theft and alteration of letters or substitution of forgeries continued, the object being to conceal the theft of Rs. 5,000, obtain the encashment of the hoondies by the forgers, and to advance another and separate fraud.

4. To obtain payment of Rs. 5,000, the forgers wrote to B, under A's imitated signature, saying that A had despatched an agent, C, to Poona with hoondies for Rs. 5,000, wherewith to make purchases, and that A being unknown in Poona, the bankers would not cash the hoondies for C till he was accredited by some firm of respectability. B was requested to certify to C's character, and after receipt of several forgeries B did accredit C through his Poona agents, but directed them at the same time to keep control over the money. C, supposing suspicion was aroused, borrowed Rs. 400 of the amount and absconded. In this manner B had unsuspectingly been made to facilitate the encashment of hoondies stolen from himself!

5. The separate fraud was this. In one of the several forgeries referring to C, the pretended agent of A, B received hoondies for Rs. 2,500, wherewith he was directed to purchase silk urgently required by A. B referred to the bankers on whom the hoondies were drawn, and ascertained the hoondies were genuine, and would be acknowledged on their maturing. He purchased the silk and despatched it, but before the hoondies matured, the bankers on whom they were, had been warned not to cash the first of exchange, as they had been stolen in transit by post. On presentation the hoondies were dishonored.

6. During the period the interceptal, alteration, and substitution of letters continued, the forgeries regularly transmitted all business details of stolen letters, and also passed on many thousand rupees' worth of hoondies. The fraud was discovered on A sending an agent to B to inquire the cause of hoondies, which he had drawn in favour of third persons, to the full amount of his supposed credit, having been dishonored.

7. *Second case.*—A, representing himself to be a trader, called on B, a banker of Mominabad, and representing that he wanted money to make purchases, offered, at the exchange of the day, a hoondie drawn by him on C, a well-known banker of Bombay. B purchased the hoondie and agreed to pay its value to A on hearing from his Bombay agent, D, that C had met the hoondie. B sent the hoondie to D, and in due time received a letter saying the amount of the hoondie had been realized from C, and the amount carried to B's credit. Shortly after A called upon B and showed the original hoondie he had drawn on C, which now bore D's receipt, and was said to have been returned after payment by C. B then paid the sum agreed on. On B writing to D that he had received his letter apprising him that Rs. 1,500, the amount of the hoondie had been carried to his account, D wrote that he had written that he re-enclosed the hoondie which had been dishonored. It was then ascertained that D's original letter with the dishonored hoondie had been stolen, a forgery substituted, and the hoondie presented by A with the D's receipt for the amount forged.

8. *Third case.*—A called on B, a banker of Raichore, said he wanted money, and offered for sale a hoondie for Rs. 600 drawn by him on C at Barsee. B purchased the hoondie and agreed to pay A the consideration on hearing from D, his agent at Barsee, that the hoondie had been duly met. B then sent the hoondie to D, with a covering letter. In transit the Rs. 600 hoondie was withdrawn, and one for Rs. 10 drawn by, and on, the same persons was substituted; the numerals also in the covering letter were so altered as to represent the value of the hoondie to be Rs. 10 only. On the exchanged hoondie reaching D, a man called on him, said his name was C, and asked if a hoondie had not been drawn on him by A, of Raichore; he paid Rs. 10, the amount of the substituted hoondie. D now wrote to B, saying the hoondie for Rs. 10 had been paid; in transit alteration was made in the letter so as to represent the value of the hoondie as Rs. 600. After receipt of the altered letter from D, A called on B and presented the original hoondie for Rs. 600 drawn by him on C, with D's receipt forged; he said C had returned it after encashment. B hereupon paid to A Rs. 600, and thus sustained a loss of Rs. 590. The fraud was ascertained on after correspondence.

9. I have reason to believe that the forgers apply, very often unsuccessfully, to post office officials to help them by stealing required letters, but either from timidity or not knowing how to act, these officials do not bring the overtures to notice. I would suggest for your consideration whether the issue of a circular, briefly stating the nature of the frauds, directing postal officials to note particularly the appearance of persons making such overtures, and to report confidentially either to the District Superintendent of Police or to Inspecting Post-Masters, might not be productive of some good.

10. If, also, through the several Governments, or otherwise, information of these frauds could be placed at the disposal of the vernacular press, and bankers be thus put on their guard, I think the frauds would soon cease. Any notice, such as that contemplated in this paragraph, might advise native bankers, if they suspected an attempted fraud, to note particularly the appearance of the suspected person, so as to ensure an accurate description, should he abscond; carefully to preserve *the covers*, as well as letters suspected, which alone enable inquiry in the post office by inspection of post-marks; also, in case of suspicion, to send either *a registered* letter making inquiries or to use the telegraph, either of which precautions will in all probability prevent a successful issue to the fraud.

WASTE LAND GRANT IN ASSAM.

Dated Calcutta, the 27th February 1873.

From—C. A. B. ANDERSON, ESQ., Kelly Den Tea Garden in Nowgong,
To—The HON'BLE G. CAMPBELL, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

I HAVE the honor to put before you in detail the application which I submitted to you verbally at breakfast this morning, and which you were good enough favorably to entertain.

The land referred to consists of about 600 acres, as per the mouzadar's measurement, held under rent-paying potta at Rs. 1-8 per acre per annum, directly adjoining my garden Kelly Den, grant Nojorikhal in the district of Nowgong, Assam.

You were good enough, under the circumstances which I laid before you, to consent to reduce the rent on this land to 12 annas per acre on a lease of ten years, renewable, I presume, at reasonable rates, as it is my intention to bring the land under cultivation at once.

The rent for this land has been paid in two instalments up to 1st October next, and I shall esteem it a great favor if you will pass the necessary order for a final survey of the land, and for the issue of a title in terms of our conversation.

No. 817, dated Calcutta, 5th the March 1873.

From—The Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Revenue Department,
To—The Commissioner of Assam.

I AM directed to inform you that at an interview with the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Anderson of the Kelly Den Tea Garden in the district of Nowgong, represented the hardness of the conditions under which he had obtained a piece of jungle land adjoining his garden, and measuring about 600 acres, at Rs. 1-8 per acre. Under the circumstances then represented by Mr. Anderson, His Honor intimated his willingness that Mr. Anderson should have two-thirds of this uncultivated land at half rates, and the rest at full rates, provided he took a lease for ten years; that is, the Lieutenant-Governor would let him have the 600 acres on payment of full rent for 400 acres, and provided there are no preferential rights in the plot, and no other objection can be made to the arrangement. His Honor thinks that under suitable circumstances such an arrangement is good in principle, and is in conformity with the provisions of chapter V of the Assam Settlement Rules. Accordingly, I am to request you will have effect given to it in Mr. Anderson's case, if the land is not likely to be immediately taken up for ordinary crops, and if there is no special reason against the arrangement proposed.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, State and Prospects of the Crops in the different Districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 15th March 1873.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.						
	Western Districts.	1873.				
Burdwan Divn. 1	Burdwan ...	Mar. 18th*	Nil.	Weather fair, but getting hot.	Spring crops thriving well. Grain market same as before.	Fever decreasing. Cholera in sporadic form within Cutwa subdivision.
Burdwan Divn. 2	Bancoorah ..	„ 15th	Nil.	Getting hot ...	Wheat and barley are being reaped in the eastern part of the district. Cotton is doing well. Teel is being sown. The late heavy rain has enabled the villagers to begin breaking up their rice lands.	
Burdwan Divn. 3	Beerbhoom ..	„ 15th	Nil.	Dry. Cool in the early part of the week. Often cloudy.	The rubee crop has turned out well. Teel is being sown, and the lands are being ploughed generally. Dhan is being planted out in bheel lands.	
Burdwan Divn. 4	Midnapore ..	„ 15th	Two very slight showers on the 14th unmeasurable.	Still cool ...	Prospects of all crops favorable.	
Burdwan Divn. 5	Hooghly ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Clear, cloudy, and hot	Last week's rain has fitted lands for being ploughed for the ous crops, &c.	
Burdwan Divn.	Howrah ...	„ 15th	1·13	A good fall of rain on Friday, 7th March, in all parts of the district; since then cloudy and cool.	The rain has done great good, but more rain is still required.	
	Central Districts.					
Presidency Divn. 6	24-Pergunnahs ...	„ 18th	Nil.	Weather seasonable; moderately warm.	No crops on the ground except tobacco, melons, and other vegetables in some places. Rain is wanted.	Health good generally. Cholera in the Diamond Harbour and Satkhirah sub-divisions has nearly ceased.
Presidency Divn. 7	Nuddea ..	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine	Nothing new. Indigo is said to be very promising so far.	
Presidency Divn. 8	Jessore ...	„ 15th	·6	Cloudy, with some rain in the first part of the week, but bright in the latter part.	The rubee crops in the south have yielded a good outturn and the boro rice is promising. Further north the barley and china crops are fair, and the preparations for sowing the ous crops are in progress.	
Rajshahye Divn. 9	Moorshedabad ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Rather cloudy at times. Some rain fell in the district on the 13th, but it has otherwise been fair.	Some of the cold weather crops are being gathered. The recent rainfall has greatly benefited the mulberry and indigo crops.	Small-pox and choleraare still prevalent, but appears to be decreasing.
Rajshahye Divn. 10	Dinagepore ..	„ 15th	Nil.	Fair and seasonable. Appearance of north-western season setting in, but no heavy storms as yet.	The crops are almost entirely off the ground, and land is prepared everywhere for the new crops.	

* Telegram of the 18th March received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL.—(*Contd.*)						
	Central Districts.—(Contd.)	1873.				
Rajshahye Divn.—(*Contd.*) 11	Maldah ...	Mar. 15th	Nil.	Clear and warm; slightly cloudy on Friday. Wind north-west and south-west.	Wheat, barley, and other crops of the season have been commenced to be reaped. A twelve-anna crop is expected.	
12	Rajshahye ..	„ 15th	Nil.	Weather fine during the first part of the week, but afterwards cloudy and sultry.	Lands are now being ploughed for rice crops and jute.	
13	Rungpore ..	„ 15th	·20	Rainy and cloudy ...	Much improved by the late rain.	
14	Bograh ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine and fair ...	The produce of sugarcane is excellent. Of the pulses, khesarie and peas are being gathered. They are not likely to come up to their usual yield.	
15	Pubna ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fair and cool. It was cloudy at the latter end of the week, but no rain.	Satisfactory. The crops of the season are being cut. Rain is wanted for ploughing the fields for the paddy crops (amun dhan), which will be put in ground in about a month.	
Cooch Behar Divn. 16	Darjeeling ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	Return not received.
17	Julpigoree ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
	Cooch Behar ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	
	Eastern Districts.					
Dacca Division. 18	Dacca ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	Return not received.
19	Furreedpore ..	„ 15th	·25	Winds variable; nights still cold. A good shower of rain on Friday.	The rubee crops have not all been reaped yet. The outturn must be comparatively small owing to the lateness of the rain.	
20	Backergunge ...	„ 15th	·80	Hot ...	Rain is much wanted for the spring sowings.	
21	Mymensing ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	Return not received.
22	Sylhet ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Cloudy at times and very cool.	As last week. Ploughing progressing rapidly for the amun crop.	
23	Cachar ...	„ 8th	0·27	Fair. Rain on the night of the 7th and on the 8th instant.	No crops on the ground.	
Chittagong Divn. 24	Chittagong ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Fair. A little windy and cloudy at close of the week.	No change since last week. Rain would be beneficial.	
25	Noakhally ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Clear during the first half of the week, but cloudy on the other half; wind variable. Rain expected very soon, a few drops fell on the morning of the 8th instant.	Moog, khesary, chillies, onions, &c., good, but rain is very much wanted.	
26	Tipperah ...	„ 15th	0·67	A thunder-storm broke over the station yesterday evening, which must have done a great deal of good.	Good, and must have been improved by last evening's rain.	

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BENGAL—(*Contd.*)						
	Eastern Districts.—(*Contd.*)	1873.				
Chittagong Divn. 27	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Mar. 8th	Nil.	Cloudy on the 8th, and towards evening slight rain.	There are no other crops on the ground except tobacco, the prospects of which will be improved by rain.	
	Hill Tipperah ...	„ 8th	·15	Cloudy almost throughout the week, south and south-east wind. Somewhat cooler than last week. Rain on the last day of the week.	No important change to report.	
BEHAR.						
Patna Division. 28	Patna ...	„ 18th*	Nil.	Cool for the time of the year.	Weather for the past week has been favorable to the gathering of the crops which is now being fast completed.	Cases of cholera and small-pox reported from parts of the district.
29	Gya ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Fine ...	The rain in previous week being unseasonable, has caused damage to opium and rubee crops. The extent is hardly yet ascertained. Wheat especially has suffered. The rubee crops are being harvested.	
30	Shahabad ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Weather appreciably warmer. Wind variable; cloudy at times; unsettled on the 15th March.	The rain which fell last week does not appear to have been general. Heaviest rainfall in the south of the district. The crops in the granaries were injured by it, as well as the uncut barley and wheat. Where hail fell the poppy in those places suffered. The full extent of damage caused is being inquired into. No return received from the Bhubooah sub-division.	Small-pox abating.
31	Tirhoot ...	„ 15th	Nil.	Cool and seasonable. There was rain last week over the whole district on the 7th instant.	The rubee and mango crops have almost entirely been destroyed by the severe hail-storm that passed over the north of the district on the 7th instant. The poppy pods have been broken, and the rahar, barley, wheat, gram, oats, and (tessi) linseed, considerably damaged. The hail-stones are reported to have been in some places about the size of pigeon's eggs. In Shewhar the force with which they fell was much greater than elsewhere; the trees have been denuded of leaves, and shrubs, crops, &c., entirely cut up. The chief force of the stones appears confined to a strip on the north-west of the district. There the hail has done great damage, also to glass and tiles, and removed the plaster on the walls exposed to the storm. The lately sown indigo lands will mostly have to be resown.	

* Telegram of the 18th March received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
BEHAR.—(*Contd.*)		1873.				
Patna Divn.—*Contd.* 32	Sarun ..	Mar. 15th	Nil.	Cloudy; east and west winds.	The rain which fell last week appears to have been general throughout the district, but heavier in some places. There was hail also in some parts. The opium from the capsules which had been tapped was washed off. The loss has been estimated at 300 maunds. The loss to the rubee generally has been reported to be from 2 to 3 annas. Injury was also done to the newly sown indigo fields, which are now being resown in consequence thereof.	
33	Chumparun ...	,, 15th	Nil.	Fair and cool, but occasionally cloudy also; no rain during the week.	Considerable damage has been caused to the crops by the hail-storm of last week. Inquiries have been made to ascertain the extent of injury done.	
Bhaugulpore Divn. 34	Monghyr ..	,, 15th	Nil.	Growing hot, but still pleasant. No rain.	No change since last report. The crops generally are pretty good.	
35	Bhaugulpore ..	,, 18th*	Nil.	Rainfall in various places during the week.	Crops every where said to be good.	
36	Purneah ...	,, 15th	Nil.	The weather has been changeable in the sub-divisions of Kishengunge and Arareah, with wind and rain. No rain at the sudder station.	The crops have been benefited by the rain. The outturn of tori was not so good as it promised to be. Rubee crops on the whole good.	
37	Southal Pergunnahs...	,, 15th	Nil.	Cold in early part of week; cloudy and warm latter part.	The hail last week is reported to have done some damage, but as the crops are of small extent at this time of the year, the loss must be small.	
ORISSA.						
Orissa Divn. 38	Cuttack ..	,, 18th*	0·3	Rainfall at Jajpore sub-division 0·8 inches.	Rubee crops doing well.	
39	Pooree ...	,, 8th	Nil.	A shower of rain in the interior on the 4th instant.	More rain needed.	
40	Balasore ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	Return not received.
CHOTA NAGPORE. *South-West Frontier Agency.* 41	Hazareebaugh ...	,, 15th	0·21	Cloudy and threatening rain.	The heavy hail-storm to the west and north has done considerable damage to the poppy plant in Huntergunge and Kohirneah thannahs, also to the wheat and barley remaining uncut. Otherwise the rain, which has fallen generally over the district, has been of benefit, as enabling the ryots to plough the grounds.	
42	Lohardaggah ...	,, 15th	0·18	Cloudy and cool—not unseasonable. The reports from the district show that the hail-storm last week was very severe in parts, in the north of Palamow sub-division particularly, where hail-stones fell measuring from 1¼ to 1½ inches in diameter.	The crops are being cut. In the north of Palamow they have been a good deal damaged by the hail.	

* Telegram of the 18th March received on the same day.

No.	District.	Date of return from each district.	Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather in the district as far as known.	State and prospects of the crops at date.	Remarks.
CHOTA NAGPORE.—(*Contd.*)						
	South-West Frontier Agency.—(*Contd.*)	1873.				
43	Singbhoom ...	Mar. 8th	0·84	Seasonable ...	The rainfall in the week will be beneficial in facilitating ploughing. The crops now on the ground are reported favorably.	
44	Maunbhoom ...	„ 15th	1·42	Stormy and cool ...	No crops are now on the ground. The late rain has enabled the cultivators to plough up their lands preparatory to sowing early broadcast rice, kodo, kangni, and gundlee.	Some cases of choleraare still reported.
ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.						
45	Goalparah ...	„ 8th	1·88	First four days clr and bright, and e last three das cloudy. A sr showers of rain l on the last two da. It rained heavily t the sudder stat on the 8th with h stones, and the r was clouded.	Want of rain was felt from all quarters for the progress of tilling lands for asu crop. The late rains will be very beneficial.	
46	Kamroop ...	„ 17th*	A slight shower of rain.	With the exception a slight shower rain the week been fair. Clou last night, w thunder and lig ning.	Sugarcane nearly all cut. Land for ous crop being ploughed.	Public health good.
47	Durrung ...	„ 8th	Nil.	Temperature and ration of wind ery favorable.	No crops on the ground.	
48	Nowgong ...	„ 8th	Nil.	The weather duing the week has een cool and seasonble. Rain is wanted. nd a little fell on the 7th, and a start shower on the mn- ing of the 8th in- stant.	The kalai and mustard crops have been gathered in. Lands are now being ploughed and prepared for the aoos dhan. Tea bushes that have been pruned are already beginning to flush nicely.	District healthy.
49	Seebsaugor ...	„ 8th	1·73	Weather partly col and fair, and par cloudy, with a hea shower of rain.	Scarcely any crops left on the ground.	
50	Luckimpore ...	„ 8th	1·18	Weather seasonabl At North Luckir pore sub-divisic three or four day cloudy, with show ers, thunder, an lightning.	o crops on the ground to report on, the land being ploughed and prepared for early dry rice crop. Report from sub-division ays, the mustard crop s nearly all in, and the ry rice lands being pre- ared.	Public health good.
51	Naga Hills ...	„ 1st	1·19	Light showers hav fallen throughou the district, and has cooled the air consi- derably.	hill people are still usy cutting their jooms, one of which have been ed as yet.	
52	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	„ 8th	0·11	Showery ...	e are no crops on e ground. The people ho wever in many parts of the hills are busy pre- paring grounds for seeds.	
53	Garo Hills ...	„ 8th	1·33	Rain has been hovering about during the week; one or two thunder-storms. There was a bad one on the 8th, which was followed by heavy rain.	The burning of the jooms will take place immediately the clearances dry. Some jooms have already been burnt. The sowing will soon come on now.	

* Telegram of the 17th March received on the 18th.

Published for general information

CALCUTTA,
The 18th March 1873.

H. J. S. COTTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 26th Feb. to 1st Mar. 1873.	Rain from 2nd to 8th Mar. 1873.	Rain from 1st January 1873.		Remarks.
					Inches.	Up to date.	
BENGAL.							
	Western Districts.		Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1873.	
Burdwan.	Burdwan	Burdwan	Nil.	2·00	2·00	8th Mar.	
		Cutwa	ditto	1·99	2·09	ditto.	
		Culna	ditto	1·23	1·23	ditto.	
		Bood-Bood	ditto	2·28	2·28	ditto.	
		Raneegunge	ditto	0·64	0·79	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	ditto	0·88	0·88	ditto.	
	Bancoorah	Bancoorah	ditto	Not rec.	Nil.	1st Mar.	
	Beerbhoom	Sooree	ditto	1·13	1·15	8th Mar.	
	Midnapore	Midnapore	ditto	0·72	0·90	ditto.	
		Tumlook	ditto	0·41	0·91	ditto.	
		Gurbetta	ditto	1·50	1·50	ditto.	
		Contai — Dy. Collr.'s C[illegible]	ditto	0·23	0·23	ditto.	
		Contai — Exe. Engr.'s [illegible]e	ditto	0·17	0·17	ditto.	
	Hooghly	Hooghly	ditto	0·90	0·90	ditto.	
		Serampore	ditto	0·17	1·22	ditto.	
	Howrah	Howrah	ditto	1·20	1·25	ditto.	
	Central Districts.						
Presidency.	24-Pergunnahs	Sangor Island	ditto	0·60	0·60	ditto.	
		Calcutta	ditto	1·18	1·18	ditto.	
		Alipore — Dispensary	ditto	1·20	1·30	ditto.	
		Alipore — Jail	ditto	1·11	1·11	ditto.	
		Busseerhaut	ditto	0·65	0·65	ditto.	
		Baraset	ditto	0·59	0·61	ditto.	
		Diamond Harbour	ditto	0·97	1·42	ditto.	
		Barripore	ditto	1·39	1·39	ditto.	
		Satkhersh	ditto	0·78	0·98	ditto.	
		Barrackpore	ditto	1·04	1·11	ditto.	
		Dum-Dum	ditto	1·41	1·41	ditto.	
	Nuddea	Kishnaghur	ditto	1·15	1·15	ditto.	
		Bongong	ditto	0·85	0·96	ditto	Not received, 16th to 22nd February
		Meherpore	ditto	1·40	1·65	ditto.	
		Chooadangah	ditto	0·94	0·94	ditto.	
		Koushtea	ditto	0·81	1·11	ditto.	
		Ranaghat	ditto	0·44	0·44	ditto.	
	Jessore	Jessore	ditto	0·65	0·85	ditto.	
		Nursil	0·90	0·58	3·18	ditto.	
		Khoolneah	ditto	0·49	0·79	ditto.	
		Jenidah	ditto	0·90	0·90	ditto.	
		Razirhaut	ditto	0·42	0·42	ditto	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
		Magoorah	ditto	0·54	0·54	ditto.	
Rajshahye.	Moorshedabad	Berhampore	ditto	1·50	1·71	ditto.	
		Ramporehaut	ditto	2·16	2·16	ditto	Not received, 9th to 22nd Feb.
		City Moorshedabad	ditto	1·19	1·44	ditto.	
		Jungipore	ditto	0·71	1·58	ditto.	
		Azimgunge	ditto	1·63	1·96	ditto.	
	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	ditto	0·61	1·39	ditto.	
	Maldah	Maldah	ditto	0·29	0·74	ditto.	
	Rajshahye	Beauleah	ditto	1·49	2·12	ditto.	
		Nattore	ditto	1·09	1·60	ditto.	
	Rungpore	Rungpore	ditto	0·90	1·19	ditto.	
		Bhowanigunge	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Titalya	0·30	0·70	1·20	ditto.	
	Bograh	Bograh	Nil.	0·47	0·81	ditto.	
	Pubna	Pubna	ditto	0·80	0·97	ditto.	
		Serajgunge	ditto	1·30	1·67	ditto.	
Cooch Behar.	Darjeeling	Darjeeling — Telegraph Office	Not rec.	Not rec.	0·12	15th Feb	
		Darjeeling — Hospital	0·25	1·01	1·28	8th Mar.	
	Julpigoree	Julpigoree	0·05	0·75	0·85	ditto.	
		Fallacotta	0·04	1·25	1·43	ditto.	
		Boda	Nil.	0·99	1·40	ditto.	
	Cooch Behar Tributary State	Cooch Behar	ditto	1·46	1·46	ditto.	
	Bhutan Dooars	Buxa	0·26	1·30	2·20	ditto.	
	Eastern Districts.						
Dacca.	Dacca	Dacca — Telegraph Office	Nil.	0·23	0·35	ditto.	
		Dacca — Hospital	ditto	0·05	0·10	ditto.	
		Moonshegunge	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
	Furreedpore	Maniekgunge	ditto	0·26	0·26	ditto.	
		Furreedpore	1·40	0·18	1·58	ditto.	
		Goalundo	Nil.	0·20	0·20	ditto.	
	Backergunge	Burrisaul	ditto	0·21	0·89	ditto.	
		Perozepore	ditto	0·73	0·73	ditto.	
		Madaripore	ditto	0·19	0·24	ditto.	
		Patoonkhally	ditto	0·07	0·07	ditto	
		Dowlat Khan	ditto	Nil.	0·22	ditto	
	Mymensing	Mymensing	ditto	0·54	0·54	ditto	
		Jamalpore	0·30	0·75	1·05	ditto	
		Atteah	Nil.	0·41	0·66	ditto.	
		Kisboregunge	ditto	0·22	0·58	ditto.	
	Sylhet	Sylhet	1·67	0·35	2·85	ditto.	
	Cachar	Cachar	2·27	0·27	3·81	ditto.	
		Hylakandy	1·02	Not rec.	4·03	1st Mar.	Not received, 5th to 11th Jan., and 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
		Koyah	Not rec.	0·53	1·19	8th Mar.	Not received 23rd Feb. to 1st Mar.
Chittagong.	Chittagong	Chittagong — Telegraph Office	Nil.	Nil.	0·20	ditto	
		Chittagong — Jail	ditto	ditto	0·35	ditto	
		Cox's Bazar	ditto	ditto	0·90	ditto	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Rungamuttee Hill	ditto	0·01	0·41	ditto	
	Noakhally	Noakhally	ditto	Nil.	0·01	ditto	
	Tipperah	Comillah	0·05	0·12	0·17	ditto	
		Brahmanbariah	0·06	0·17	1·27	ditto	
	Hill Tipperah	Hill Tipperah	Nil.	0·15	0·51	ditto	

Division.	District.	Station.	Rain from 26th Feb. to 1st Mar. 1873.	Rain from 2nd to 8th Mar. 1873.	Rain from 1st January 1873.		Remarks.
					Inches.	Up to date.	
	BEHAR.		Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	1873.	
Patna.	Patna	Patna	Nil.	0·20	0·41	ditto	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
		Behar	ditto	0·42	0·97	ditto.	
		Barh	ditto	0·60	0·76	ditto	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
		Dinapore—Jail	ditto	0·30	0·51	ditto.	
		Dinapore—Cantonment	ditto	0·35	0·35	ditto	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
	Gya	Gya	ditto	0·94	1·11	ditto.	
		Nowadah	ditto	0·42	0·74	ditto.	
		Aurungabad	ditto	0·62	0·74	ditto.	
		Jehanabad	ditto	0·58	0·68	ditto.	
	Shahabad	Arrah	ditto	1·06	1·44	ditto.	
		Sasseram	ditto	0·55	0·66	ditto.	
		Buxar	ditto	0·65	1·15	ditto.	
		Bhuboah	ditto	5·50	5·50	ditto.	
	Tirhoot	Mozufferpore	ditto	2·20	4·40	ditto.	
		Durbangah	ditto	1·43	1·45	ditto	Not received, 1st to 4th January.
		Hajipore	ditto	0·80	0·95	ditto	Not rec. 26th Jan. to 1st Feb.
		Mudhubani	ditto	0·27	0·45	ditto	Not rec. 26th Jan. to 22nd Feb.
		Seetamaree	Not rec.	2·30	2·50	ditto.	Not rec. 23rd Feb. to 1st Mar.
		Tajpore	ditto	0·86	1·13	ditto.	Not received 1st to 4th and 12th to 25th January, and 9th Fe b. to 1st Mar.
	Sarun	Chuprah	Nil.	1·70	1·99	ditto.	
		Sewan	ditto	0·72	1·12	ditto.	
	Chumparun	Motechari	ditto	3·00	3·90	ditto.	
		Bettiah	ditto	3·00	3·25	ditto.	
Bhaugulpore.	Monghyr	Monghyr	ditto	1·07	1·43	ditto.	
		Begoosserai	ditto	0·20	0·40	ditto.	Not received, 5th to 11th January
		Jamooie	ditto	0·50	1·23	ditto.	
	Bhaugulpore	Bhaugulpore	ditto	0·60	1·00	ditto.	
		Soopool	ditto	Not rec.	Nil.	1st Mar.	
		Mudheypoorah	ditto	1·00	1·00	8th Mar.	
		Banka	ditto	0·37	1·07	ditto.	
	Purneah	Purneah	ditto	0·92	1·19	ditto	Not received, 16th to 22nd Feb.
		Kishengunge	ditto	0·71	0·71	ditto.	Ditto ditto ditto.
		Arrareah	ditto	Not rec.	Nil.	1st Mar.	Ditto ditto ditto.
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	Deoghur	ditto	1·70	1·99	8th Mar.	
		Jamtara	ditto	0·45	0·45	ditto.	
		Rajmehal	ditto	0·20	0·20	ditto.	
		Pakour	ditto	0·40	0·40	ditto.	
		Nya-Doomka	ditto	1·54	1·80	ditto.	
		Godda	ditto	0·40	1·02	ditto.	
		ORISSA.					
Orissa.	Cuttack	Cuttack—Telegraph Office	ditto	2·10	2·10	ditto.	
		Cuttack—Hospital	ditto	2·41	2·41	ditto.	
		Jajipore	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
		Kendrapara	ditto	0·60	0·60	ditto.	
		Jugutsingpore	ditto	1·71	1·47	ditto.	
		False Point	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
	Pooree	Pooree	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
		Khoordah	ditto	0·04	0·12	ditto.	
	Balasore	Balasore	ditto	0·92	0·92	ditto.	
		Bhuddruck	ditto	Nil.	Nil.	ditto.	
	Cuttack Tributary Mehals	Sambalpore	Not rec.	Not rec.	ditto	1st Feb.	
		CHOTA NAGPORE.					
		SOUTH-WESTERN FRONTIER AGENCY.					
	Hazareebaugh	Hazareebaugh—Jail	Nil.	0·77	0·77	8th Mar.	
		Hazareebaugh—Dispensary	ditto	0·83	0·83	ditto.	
		Pachumba	ditto	1·17	1·17	ditto.	
	Lohardaggah	Ranchee	ditto	1·45	1·49	ditto.	
		Palamow	ditto	0·60	0·60	ditto.	
	Singbhoom	Chyebassa	ditto	2·02	2·21	ditto.	
	Maunbhoom	Purulia	ditto	2·31	2·31	ditto.	
		Gobindpore	ditto	1·90	1·90	ditto.	
		ASSAM & ADJACENT HILLS.					
	Goalparah	Goalparah	Not rec.	2·00	2·00	ditto	Not. rec. 23rd Feb. to 1st Mar.
		Dhoobree	ditto	1·45	1·45	ditto	Ditto ditto ditto.
	Kamroop	Gowhatty	Nil.	1·47	2·11	ditto.	
		Burpettah	ditto	0·30	0·30	ditto.	
	Durrung	Tezpore	0·44	Not rec.	1·11	1st Mar.	
		Mungledye	0·48	ditto	1·64	ditto.	
	Nowgong	Nowgong	0·80	0·89	1·87	8th Mar.	
	Seebsaugor	Seebsaugor	0·67	Not rec.	3·77	1st Mar.	
		Golaghat	1·37	ditto	2·26	ditto.	
		Jorehaut	1·18	ditto	57·9	ditto.	
		Nazeerah	Not rec.	ditto	.....	.....	
	Luckimpore	Debrooghur	1·13	ditto	5·00	1st Mar.	
		North Luckimpore	0·18	ditto	3·00	ditto.	
		Suddya	2·24	ditto	5·68	ditto.	
	Naga Hills	Samoogoodting	Not rec.	ditto	0·57	15th Feb.	
	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.	Shillong	0·32	ditto	0·52	1st Mar.	
		Jaowai	2·00	ditto	2·70	ditto.	
		Cherrapoonjee	3·99	ditto	4·35	ditto.	
	Garo Hills	Tura	0·30	1·33	2·10	8th Mar.	
		Benares	Nil.	Not rec.	Nil.	1st Mar.	
		Akyab	ditto	Nil.	0·60	8th Mar.	

CALCUTTA,
The 15th March 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 9th to 15th March 1873.

Stations.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer reduced to 32°.	Barometer reduced to sea-level.	Thermometer. Dry.	Thermometer. Wet.	Humidity Sat. =100.	Wind. Direction	Wind. Velocity. *	Rain.	Clouds.	Weather initials
	Mar.											
Calcutta	9th	10	30·021	30·040	74·5	64·4	55	W N W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·924	29·942	80·5	64·4	37	N W	...	...	.....	b
	10th	10	30·031	30·049	75·6	65·5	55	E S E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·884	29·902	83·5	67·7	39	W N W	...	...	.....	b
	11th	10	30·003	30·021	78·5	68·0	55	E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·832	29·850	86·5	68·0	34	W by N	...	...	.....	b
	12th	10	29·931	29·949	81·3	74·0	69	S S W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·784	29·802	90·7	71·4	35	N W	...	...	.....	b
	13th	10	29·889	29·907	81·5	75·5	74	S W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·746	29·764	89·8	75·3	48	S by W	...	...	.....	b
	14th	10	29·922	29·940	79·0	75·1	82	W S W	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·863	29·881	80·5	69·5	54	W	...	...	.....	
	15th	10	29·979	29·997	79·4	68·6	54	W by N	...	...	CK, CS	c
		16	29·854	29·872	89·0	71·0	37	W S W	...	...	C	
Saugor Island.	9th	10	30·019	30·025	78	62	35	N N W	3·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·918	29·924	82	67	42	S	7·1	...	K	b
	10th	10	30·030	30·036	80	69	54	W	5·3	...	K	b
		16	29·891	29·897	81	71	59	S S W	8·4	...	K	b
	11th	10	29·994	30·000	80	73	70	N W	2·4	...	N	b
		16	29·852	29·858	83	74	63	S S W	10·6	...	K	b
	12th	10	29·941	29·947	84	76	67	S W	14·9	...	K	b
		16	29·808	29·814	83	76	71	S S W	15·7	...	.....	b, scuds.
	13th	10	29·903	29·909	82	76	74	W S W	19·8	...	K	b
		16	29·760	29·766	83	77	75	S	17·8	...	K	b, scuds.
	14th	10	29·936	29·942	83	77	75	S W	13·7	...	CK	b
		16	29·932	29·938	74	70	81	N W	14·7	1·30	N	m, scuds.
	15th	10	30·008	30·014	80	71	62	N W	3·0	...	K	d, o, u, calm.
		16	29·877	29·883	81	72	62	S	8·8	...	N	b
Chittagong.	9th	10	29·943	30·037	76	64	48	N N E	5·3	...	.....	b
		16	29·854	29·948	83	64	30	W	8·1	...	.....	b, m
	10th	10	29·938	30·032	75	62	44	N N E	6·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·784	29·876	84	64	28	W	10·3	...	.....	b, m
	11th	10	29·930	30·023	79	65	43	N E	7·1	...	.....	b
		16	29·695	29·788	82	68	45	W S W	9·2	...	.....	b
	12th	10	29·880	29·973	82	71	55	W	4·6	...	.....	b, m
		16	29·759	29·851	84	71	50	W S W	10·0	...	.....	b
	13th	10	29·862	29·954	83	75	67	S	5·5	...	K	b
		16	29·733	29·825	84	76	67	W S W	9·9	...	.....	b
	14th	10	29·895	29·988	82	75	70	E S E	5·1	...	K	b, m
		16	29·782	29·874	84	75	64	S W	11·2	...	.....	b
	15th	10	29·915	30·008	81	69	51	N N	7·7	...	.....	b
		16	29·796	29·888	86	75	57	W S W	9·0	...	.....	b
Madras	8th	10	29·955	29·985	84	74	60	S by W	9	...	.....	b
		16	29·840	29·870	85	77	68	S E	11	...	.....	b
	9th	10	30·001	30·031	86	75	57	S E by E	4	...	.....	b
		16	29·862	29·892	85	75	60	S E by E	9	...	.....	b
	10th	10	30·001	30·031	86	76	61	E S E	7	...	.....	b
		16	29·879	29·909	84	74	60	E	9	...	.....	b
	11th	10	30·010	30·040	85	72	50	E by N	8	...	.....	b
		16	29·884	29·914	85	68	37	E by N	6	...	.....	b
	12th	10	29·992	30·022	84	71	50	E by N	5	...	.....	b
		16	29·864	29·894	83	71	52	E	9	...	.....	b
	13th	10	29·991	30·021	82	71	55	S by W	8	...	.....	b
		16	29·791	29·821	83	74	63	S E	9	...	.....	b
	14th	10	29·973	30·003	84	72	53	S by E	10	...	.....	b, c
		16	29·838	29·868	84	74	60	S E by S	13	...	.....	b
Cuttack.	8th	10	29·913	29·996	80	70	58	E N E	3·8	...	C	b
		16	29·763	29·845	89	69	32	W	6·5	...	K	b
	9th	10	29·953	30·036	81	65	38	N N E	1·0	...	.....	b
		16	29·813	29·895	88	65	23	E S E	2·7	...	.....	b
	10th	10	29·941	30·024	81	72	62	W	0·9	...	C	
		16	29·797	29·879	89	69	32	W S W	3·0	...	.....	b
	11th	10	29·928	30·011	82	72	59	S W	0·9	...	.....	b, calm.
		16	29·748	29·829	91	70	31	N N E	2·7	...	.....	b
	12th	10	29·865	29·949	71	69	89	W	2·0	...	.....	b
		16	29·718	29·799	95	69	21	S S E	3·3	...	.....	b
	13th	10	29·813	29·895	85	76	64	S S W	4·4	...	.....	b
		16	29·658	29·739	91	76	47	S	5·5	...	C, K	b
	14th	10	29·853	29·935	85	75	60	N	3·6	...	C, CK	b
		16	29·823	29·906	76	70	72	S E	7·5	...	N	r
Akyab.	9th	10	29·982	30·003	83	72	56	E	...	...	.....	b
		16	29·858	29·879	85	68	37	W N W	9·1	...	.....	b
	10th	10	29·957	29·979	82	67	42	N N W	2·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·824	29·846	82	68	45	W	1·0	...	.....	b
	11th	10	29·950	29·972	82	69	48	N	1·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·781	29·802	84	72	53	W	4·8	...	.....	b
	12th	10	29·902	29·923	83	72	56	E	1·4	...	.....	b
		16	29·794	29·815	83	74	63	W	7·1	...	.....	b
	13th	10	29·907	29·928	83	72	58	N	2·7	...	.....	b
		16	29·770	29·791	83	78	78	W	9·1	...	.....	b
	14th	10	29·962	29·983	84	76	67	E N E	2·2	...	.....	b
		16	29·861	29·883	82	75	70	W	5·1	...	.....	b
	15th	10	29·944	29·965	83	73	60	W	2·3	...	.....	b
		16	29·854	29·875	83	73	60	W	8·0	...	.....	b

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

CALCUTTA,
The 15th March 1873.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 8th to 14th March 1873.

Month.	Date.	Mean reduced barometer.	Thermometer.			Mean dry bulb.	Mean wet bulb.	Computed mean dew-point.	Mean degree of humidity.	Wind.			Rain.	Moon's phases.	General Remarks.
			Highest reading.	Lowest reading.	Max. solar radiation.					Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.			
		Inches.	○	○	○	○	○	○			lb	Miles.	In.		
March ...	8th	29·887	81·0	66·6	138·2	72·7	67·5	63·3	0·74	Variable.	6·0	138·1	1·06	...	Overcast, cirrocumuliand clear. High wind between 1¾ and 2 A.M. Slightly foggy from 8 to 10 P.M. Lightning from midnight to 2 A.M Rain from 2½ to 7 A.M..
	9th	·954	80·5	65·0	136·5	72·3	64·0	57·4	·61	W, N W, & N by E	...	109·4	...	...	Clear.
	10th	·951	83·5	63·8	138·0	73·2	64·7	57·9	·60	E S E, E by N, & W N W	...	116·0	...	...	Clear.
	11th	·910	86·5	67·0	139·0	75·9	67·1	60·9	·61	E & N W	...	75·5	...	...	Clear and cumuli. Slightly foggy from 5 to 7 A.M.
	12th	·856	90·7	69·3	145·0	79·1	71·7	66·5	·67	S by W	...	120·9	...	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at 6 A.M.
	13th	·815	89·8	73·0	144·0	80·4	74·0	69·5	·71	S S W	...	148·8	...	...	Clear, cirrocumuli.
	14th	·865	83·8	73·0	139·4	77·4	71·6	67·5	·73	S S W & N W	2·8	134·9	...	○	Clear, cirrocumuli and overcast. Brisk wind at 2½ P.M. Drizzled at 3½ P.M.

The mean barometer as likewise the dry and wet bulb thermometer means are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column 10 represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity. The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground. The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

		⊖
The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	26·9
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	90·7
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	98·0
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0·67
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0·68
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 8th to 14th ... by lower rain gauge	...	1·06
The total fall of rain from 8th to 14th ... by anemometer gauge	...	0·93
Ditto ditto ditto average of nineteen previous years	...	0·15
Ditto ditto between the 1st January and the 14th March	...	1·18
Ditto ditto ditto ditto, average of nineteen previous years	...	2·24

GOPEENAUTH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

The 17th March 1873.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 1st March 1873, on 156½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.			Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.			Total receipts.
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
		Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. A. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total traffic for the week	41,234½	24,902 0 9	2,282 13 9	166,508 21	41,947 8 4	3,845 3 10	6,127 17 3
Or per mile of railway	263	159 1 11	14 11 9	1,064 0	268 0 7	24 11 5	39 3 2
For previous 8 weeks of half-year...	247,170	2,25,541 11 6	20,674 13 1	917,037 4	1,91,919 2 0	17,592 11 7	38,267 4 8
Total for 9 weeks	288,404½	2,50,443 12 3	22,957 6 10	1,083,545 25	2,33,866 10 4	21,437 15 5	44,395 2 3
Comparison.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year	32,620	23,768 9 0	2,178 15 8	179,031 37	31,864 0 8	2,920 17 5	5,099 13 1
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	208	151 14 0	13 18 5	1,144 0	203 9 8	18 13 3	32 11 8
Total to corresponding date of previous year	292,483½	1,90,967 9 7	17,505 7 3	1,110,883 33	2,21,692 8 11	10,321 16 5	37,827 3 8

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[REGISTERED No. 29.]

No. 13 of 1873.

SUPPLEMENT TO
The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1873.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE *may receive the* SUPPLEMENT *separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.*

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BURDWAN FEVER.

RESOLUTION.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL.

Calcutta, the 20th March 1873.

READ—

A memorandum, No. 89A of 27th February 1873, from Commissioner of Burdwan, transmitting a copy of a report from Mr. C. T. Metcalfe, Magistrate of Burdwan, on the state of the fever in that district during December 1872 and January 1873, together with a copy of Commissioner's reply thereto.

1. Excepting the thannah of Selimabad and a portion of the Jehanabad thannah, it appears that Mr. Metcalfe has, during the two months of which his report treats, visited the whole of his district. The report he now forwards is by far the most satisfactory yet received. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with pleasure that in almost all parts of the Burdwan district the epidemic has much abated, whilst in Culna and Cutwa it is spoken of as a thing of the past. In the immediate vicinity of Burdwan itself, fever appears to be still lingering, and it is a matter of regret that in some of the villages towards the Beerbhoom borders the epidemic is still prevalent. The villages of Palta and Kaloerie are spoken of as most severely affected, and it is with grave disappointment that the Lieutenant-Governor remarks on the conduct of the zemindars who refused to shelter dispensaries at those villages, and of the native doctor at Palta, who is reported to have neglected his work so seriously The attention of the Inspector-General of Hospitals will be called to this native doctor. There is reason to fear that fever has made great advances in Beerbhoom during the last season. His Honor desires that the Commissioner will report very specially on this point without delay.

2. His Honor would also be glad to be informed whether anything can be done towards improving the sanitation of the Kezeehat and Godda villages. The Commissioner might perhaps be able to induce the zemindars to do something towards their improvement. It is worthy of notice, however, that in

these villages nutritious food is said to have enabled the people to resist the attacks of fever in spite of the filthy condition in which they live.

3. In his 4th paragraph, Mr. Buckland recommends that dispensary operations shall be contracted. The Lieutenant-Governor will be glad to see this done, but cautiously. The Commissioner should make every effort to get permanent dispensaries established under the new rules, that the district may be well supplied with medical aid when the special operations are at an end.

4. His Honor would take this opportunity of very specially thanking Mr. Metcalfe for his zealous and courageous efforts during the last two years in connection with the fever relief and supervision.

No. 18P, dated Burdwan, the 16th February 1873.

From—C. T. METCALFE, ESQ., Magistrate of Burdwan,
To—The Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

I HAVE the honor to submit a report on the state of the fever within this district for the month of December 1872 and January 1873.

1. Since my last report was submitted, I have travelled over the greater part of the district. Leaving Paneeghur I first journeyed south to Soonamookhi. I found here no regular epidemic prevalent, but still a good deal of sickness. From Soonamookhi to Dhonsimla along the high range the country is comparatively free, but in the villages of Narainpore, and neighbouring villages bordering on the river in the lower land, there has been good deal of sickness. In the villages I visited I found many suffering. There were two dispensaries in this tract dispensing medicines.

BOOD-BOOD CIRCLE.
Dispensaries.

Goitunpore.	Narainpore.
Nollah.	Adrah.
Debiburpore.	Uboorshee.
Joobley.	Gulshee.
Gala.	Kaunoo.
Shongshur.	Jamtarah.
Tassoolee.	

2. From Pattroshaire I visited Kishtonuggore, where there was then an outbreak of cholera, to deal with which a local compounder and a locally entertained native doctor were employed.

3. I next visited the tract lying on the western limits of Indas. At Indas itself there was a good deal of fever. I found many sick close to the dispensary who had never, according to their own admissions, sought medical aid. From Indas I went to Kotulpore. The country about here is comparatively healthy as apparent in the looks of the villagers, not but that there is fever but not *the* fever. In other words, the fever prevalent in this thannah is of a much milder type. The cases are fewer, and there are fewer deaths. All up the banks of the Darkessur the same condition prevails. The people healthy, with here and there a village particularly suffering.

JEHANABAD CIRCLE.
Dispensaries open.

Shadipore.	Bally.
Indas.	Hajeepore.
Kurshindey.	Mynpore.
Roynah.	Gotan.
Arore.	Choto Boinal.
Deguigram.	Paitah.
Akloky.	Meerpore.
Kendore.	Kayur.
Bhatoor.	Jehanabad Government dispensary.
Kamarpookur.	

4. Wherever I halted it was the same answer, the fever is much less. We have not the same fever as further east.

5. Before leaving this part of the district I procured as many fairly authenticated instances of persons who had contracted fever by journeying to Jehanabad on business connected with our courts as I could obtain. This formed the subject of a report to the Commissioner, and the inquiry originated from a statement in the columns of the vernacular press. The official medical report for this sub-division based on figures, was that, in the middle of December, the number of patients had increased, and were in excess over those of November.*

6. I next visited the tract of country between the Railway and the Adjai. Sickness has to a certain extent prevailed in the villages on the Adjai, but I could find nothing like the broken health of the more afflicted parts. The villagers were as a rule healthy.

7. I spent three days at Sham Bazar and from there, taking advantage of a good road, marched along the borders of the two districts† to Bulpore. Near this place I found

* The Deputy Magistrate of Bood-Bood in his report gives fifteen villages only in thannah Bood-Bood, with sick over twenty in number, of which the largest numbers are—

Adra	...	47 sick.
Poornogram	...	125 „
Mohra	...	70 „
Bochgram	...	140 „
Shondah	...	41 „

In thannah Ausgram he gives seven villages with sick over twenty, of which the worst are—

Dinnonathpore	...	40
Mowkhora	...	90
Dignagore	...	240

In thannah Soonamookhee he gives the two unhealthiest villages to be—

Soonamookhee	...	178—population 8,000.
Pathoshire	...	250

† Beerbhoom and Burdwan.

in several Beerbhoom villages traces of hard and bad times for the residents. The Sanitary Commissioner is at present engaged in inquiring into this locality.

8. The first Burdwan dispensary on the eastern border of Beerbhoom is Palta. All round this dispensary the fever has been severe, and in some places is still very bad. The native doctor in charge was clearly a shirker, and had [illegible] done his work.

This lies in the Munglecote circle. Dispensaries open :—

Chanuck.	Palta.
Dinonathpore.	Shor.
Mahatah.	Pogram.
Dosgram.	Munglecote.
Arrore.	Kalikapore.

9. I [illegible] that the zemindar's agent rather obstructed [illegible] assisted the dispensary. In the cutcherry there was plenty of available s[illegible] but the agent would not give up even a corner, or assist with a table. [illegible] almirah, or even a box. Some Mahomedan aymadars had sheltered the [illegible]r and his medicines, giving up the lower part of a mosque for this purpos[illegible]

10. Within two miles of Palta lies the village of Koolooie. Here I found the people generally sick and miserable. The zemindar's son ill, as well as other inmates of the house, and yet when I proposed to them to send them a native doctor if they would locate him in the only decent house (and away from the zemindar's house), they refused point blank to allow the use of the place for a dispensary.

11. The sickness in this part diminishes as one approaches Cutwa, and whatever figures may show, the diminution of the fever is clearly an ascertained fact. To the east of Cutwa at Kalkapore there was an attendance of about 170 per diem, and several very weakly cases I saw on the road.

12. I passed several days between Kalkapore and Poorbustholi. The fever was spoken of as a thing of the past. New houses are springing up in place of the old, jungle is being cut down, new ryots are coming in and squatting; I am not speaking of one place only, but of a line from Poorbustholee through Samoodagur to Culna. A beat for a leopard and some pigs led me into the villages south of Patulee, viz. Ookhra, Sarangapore, Bissoorumba, Sibiparah, Dhitpara, Nimdaha, Doobrajpore, all of which villages had suffered from several years of epidemic. The people, although complaining of the growth of jungle and destruction to their cultivation by pigs, also spoke of the fever as having passed and gone.

13. From Culna I marched through Chowghoriah and Satgatchee towards Burdwan. The nearer I came to Burdwan the more fever cases I passed, while the larger tracts of uncultivated land pointed to the diminished population.

14. I have yet to visit and see the state of Jehanabad and Selimabad Thannahs; but with these exceptions I have been the entire circle of the district, and I nowhere see the misery or the sickness of last year.

15. In the Burdwan circle the daily average sick at the latter end of November numbered 1,983·20; for the week ending November 30th the figures were 2,146·4, showing an increase of 163·20; for the week ending 7th of December it was 2,076, showing still an increase of 92·80 in the 14 days, but a decrease of 70·40 when compared with the previous week. There are 12 dispensaries open in this circle.

In the town and without the limits of the municipality the following dispensaries are open :—
Beldangah, Tickerhaut, and Kanchunugore.

16. At Kajeerhaut the daily average had increased in the earlier part of December from 231·11; in November to 256·14. At Kanchunnugore the daily average at end of November had fallen to 211.

16. The Civil Surgeon, reviewing the state of public health, observes that while the average sick attending at the latter end of November showed a daily decrease of 198·90, there was a still further daily decrease in the first week of December of 368. On the 7th of December the figures of the daily average stood thus :—

Burdwan	circle.	...	...	2,076
Bood-Bood	,,	...	...	2,113
Munglecote	,,	...	...	1,377·20
Jehanabad	,,	...	...	2,265·40
				7,829·60

In the whole district the daily average sick for the week ending the 21st December was 7,753·50; for the week ending 31st December 7,142·80, which shows a decrease of 610·70; for the week ending 7th January it was 7,055·60, which shows in the fortnight a still larger decrease of 698·00.

17. The following table shows the dispensaries in each circle the attendance of which averages more than 100 per diem :—

Burdwan.

Beldangah	218·50	Bamnah	166·80
Itchalabazar	177·50	Kanchunnugore ...	179·40
Koormon	131·0	Kattrapottah ...	248·20
Jabon	109·10	Jowgram	149·20
Pamrah	140·10	Samouti	170·20

Four dispensaries with atte[illegible] under 100 :—

[illegible]d Circle.

Gulshee	112	Nollah	100
Jooblay	10[illegible]	Baghar	100
Goitempore	12[illegible]	Mahachandah ...	112

Eight dispensaries with a[illegible]dance under 100 :—

Jehanabad Circle.

Gotan ...	319	Gourhatty	314·50
Digalgram ...	122·50	Jamalpore	364·40
Okloky ...	220·70	Hajeepore	232·80
Paitah ...	156·70		

Seven dispensaries with attendance under 100 :—

Munglecote Circle.

Chaunck ...	294·10	Pogram	109·20
Arore ...	110·40	Munglecote	158
Shore ...	195·70		

18. These figures I think look hopeful, particularly when it is known that the greater part of the patients are only children, and a still further decrease may I think be looked forward to month by month.

19. From the supervising medical officer's reports I have extracted the following :—

Extract from report of Babu Dino Bundhu Dutt.

"Visited Kajeehaut and Goddah. Both villages have several dirty tanks overgrown with weeds, water possessing very offensive smell, dense bamboo clusters on the sides, strong smell of fœces on the sides of the tanks. The tanneries gave an offensive smell to the localities, so much so that one could not remain for any time without feeling some nausea. One fact however is noteworthy, viz., that the Chamârs or Tanners, both males and females, enjoy good health notwithstanding all the insanitary conditions above mentioned."

20. This class lives comfortably, beef forming part of their diet. This single fact is proof that want of sufficient nourishment has a great deal to answer for in the effects of the fever upon the miserable creatures lately shown to the Deputy Inspector General on his visit.

No. $\frac{207T}{68A}$, dated Burdwan, the 27th February 1873.

From—C. T. BUCKLAND, Esq., Commissioner of the Burdwan Division,
To—The Magistrate of Burdwan.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your No. 18P, of 5th instant, with its enclosures (herewith returned), reporting on the state of the fever in the district of Burdwan for the months of December 1872 and January 1873.

2. There has been some delay in disposing of this report, partly on account of my absence on tour at Midnapore, and partly owing to the delay in my office in putting up the correspondence referred to in paragraph 5, which emanated from my verbal request on information received by me at Bancoorah, but this delay has not been of so much importance, as it has enabled me to bring the letter to Burdwan, and to obtain from you a further confirmation of the satisfactory information given by you, which is also supported by the statements which we have heard to-day from Dr. Jackson, the Sanitary Commissioner, who returned to Burdwan this morning on the completion of a lengthy tour.

3. It is very satisfactory to find that the fever is at length really abating, or if I may use a different form of expression, that it is beginning to wear itself out. For some time it has appeared to me that the fever is most correctly described by comparing it to a fire which has seized upon certain inflammable materials, which it has consumed with more or less violence according to the localities in which they were placed, it being almost impossible, in certain places and under certain conditions, to do anything to rescue these materials from the consuming element; where the fever has attacked the inhabitants of villages overgrown with jungle, full of fœtid matter, and teeming with every thing pestilent and abominable and prejudicial to health, it has been a matter of impossibility to rescue the already diseased and enfeebled victims from the virulent attacks of this new and formidable form of disease.

4. I am glad to hear that you now propose, with the assistance of the Sanitary Commissioner and the Civil Surgeon, to reduce the number and cost of the dispensaries where the number of the sick who come for relief is not sufficiently large to justify the maintenance of an independent dispensary. Where dispensaries are still to be maintained, an endeavour should be made to give them a local basis of support, arising from subscriptions and contributions

obtained locally. It is but right that those who aid themselves should have a preference over those who will not even afford shelter to our native doctors and their medicines, or who will not really trouble themselves to take advantage of our endeavours to give them relief.

5. It is satisfactory to see that in the week ending 7th January, the daily average of attendance at the dispensaries had come down to 7,055, although these figures may not really show the true number of those who suffer from the fever and its attendant consequences. In fact, if fever still prevails in 2,356 out of the 4,936 villages in the district of Burdwan, as shown in the 22nd paragraph of your report, the number of sick in each village would be so small as to make it unnecessary to continue our measures of relief. In a population exceeding two million and a quarter a daily average of 7,000 sufferers from fever would be very insignificant. But in all probability there are many more persons suffering from the fever and its effects than present themselves at the dispensaries for relief; and on the other hand, there are probably many villages in which there is not in reality any present existence of epidemic fever, although there may be a few persons suffering from common fever, or from the sequelæ of attacks of epidemic fever.

6. The most favorable and encouraging evidence of the fact, that the fever has worn itself out, is to be found in paragraph 12 of your report, which shows that the country from Poorbostulee through Samoodergur to Culna is now considered to have recovered its healthy character. This part of the district was attacked in 1864-65, when the fever first stepped across the Bhagiratee in its migration from Khisnaghur and devastated the villages on this side of Burdwan. In these villages you observe that the fever is now spoken of as a thing of the past; new houses are springing up in place of the old; jungle is being cut down; new ryots are coming in and squatting. I trust that a similar recuperative power of health may show itself in the other parts of the district which have been subject to the later invasions of the fever. I anticipate great results from the measures which you have so successfully carried out for supplying the town of Burdwan with fresh water and proper sanitary conveniences.

No. 89A, dated Burdwan the 27th February 1873.

Memo. by—C. T. BUCKLAND, ESQ., Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

COPY of this letter, and of the Magistrate's No. 18P, forwarded for the information of the Government of Bengal.

FEVER IN BEERBHOOM.

RESOLUTION.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL.

Calcutta, the 25th March 1873.

READ—

A letter, No. 116 of the 13th March 1873, from the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, reporting on the epidemic fever in the district of Beerbhoom.

1. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with very great satisfaction that in the Beerbhoom district, as in Burdwan, the epidemic fever has now considerably decreased.

2. The disease has been most severe in the south-east of the district, towards the river Adjai, and seems to be now making its way to the north and north-east of the district. The country is reported to be generally dry, with no excess of stagnant water as in Burdwan, while the fever has been equally virulent on alluvial, clay, sand or laterite. It would appear from this that neither the character of the soil nor humidity have any special relation to the existence and progress of the disease, and this makes the causes of this fever more mysterious than ever.

3. It is not, however, surprising that when once the fever has taken hold it should continue to retain its power, considering the very filthy state in which many of the villages are reported to be. The Magistrate should do what he can to induce the zemindars and people to cleanse and improve the sanitary condition of their villages. He must also watch very closely the progress of the disease, and see that dispensaries are opened wherever they are considered to be absolutely necessary, and that they are properly worked.

4. The Inspector-General of Hospitals will be desired to settle, in communication with the Commissioner and Sanitary Commissioner, how far the medical staff employed in Burdwan may be safely reduced, and to see that Beerbhoom and the tracts at present affected are properly cared for.

No. 116, dated Burdwan, the 13th March 1873.

From—C. T. BUCKLAND, Esq., Commissioner of the Burdwan Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

WITH reference to paragraph 4 of your No. 5420 of the 7th December last, I have the honor to submit a rough sketch map which has been prepared by Mr. Tottenham, late Magistrate of Beerbhoom, showing the portions of the district which have been visited by the epidemic fever. The parts affected by the fever have been coloured darker than the rest of the map, and the darker the shading the worse, it is to be understood, the fever has been.

2. Mr. Tottenham states that the fever has not confined itself to localities in which the nature of the soil is similar, but it has been almost equally virulent on clay, sand, and laterite. In the extreme south-east of the district near the river Adjai, where the disease has raged violently, the soil is alluvial. At Soopoor, where it has been, and is still, causing excessive mortality, there is a great admixture of sand. At Elambazar the laterite formation prevails, as also at Soorool and in the neighbourhood of Singaon, east of Bhulpore, which has been specially stricken by the fever. In other parts again of Kusba and Doobrajpore the soil is clayey, but the fever has been very bad in some of the villages in these thannahs. At Munguldihi and the neighbouring villages on all sides in the eastern portion of thannah Doobrajpore which have been seriously affected this season, the soil is very clayey.

3. The state of the villages generally is such that the fever having once taken hold of them, it is not a matter of surprise that it should cling to them and assume a very bad type. Many of these villages are badly situated on the lowest level instead of on the top of the undulating and rising ground, the sites having probably been selected as being nearer to water. The villages generally are badly ventilated and extremely filthy, with pits full of solid and liquid manure at the very doors of the people. This state of things has probably existed for generations, and it is to be observed as much in villages untouched by the epidemic as in those where the fever has been most devastating. But although this unwholesome condition of the villages can hardly be said to be the cause of the disease, it fully accounts for the tenacity with which the fever clings to large villages of which it once takes hold, and in which the constitutions of the inhabitants have been previously impaired from the conditions under which they have been borne and lived all their days.

4. The water channels in the affected parts are for the most part rapid streams during the rains, and almost dry at other times: they run generally eastward and southward, finding their way eventually into the Adjai or the Bhagirutee. The district on the whole is a dry one, and during the past season, especially from the scanty rainfall, there has never been any excess of water lying undrained in the villages and fields.

5. The occupations of the people are chiefly agricultural, though there are weavers by caste in very many of the villages. The native weaving trade having been much depressed in modern times, these people now live in many cases as much by agriculture as by the practice of their own art. Domes and other low caste men are very numerous; and it is worthy of note that whereas in the previous year the low caste people and the female sex enjoyed a comparative immunity from the fever, it has during this season attacked all classes and both sexes indiscriminately.

6. I am glad to be able to add that the fever has now considerably abated in all parts of Beerbhoom, and the number of fresh cases is now small. In Soopoor there are still many persons suffering, and I fear that it will be long before they will cease to need careful medical treatment. I have directed the Magistrate again to address purwannas to the zemindar of Soopoor and his

agents, and the headmen of the village, requiring them to carry out all reasonable sanitary improvements for the sake of their own health and life; but it is greatly to be feared that in the absence of any such legal enactment as I have recommended on this subject, the people will do nothing to purify their villages.

7. Dr. Jackson, the Sanitary Commissioner, has made a careful inspection of the fever tracts of Beerbhoom, and if he has submitted any report to Government about it, I should be glad to see a copy. He was not satisfied with the native doctors and dispensaries which had been established, and it is much to be regretted that we had to make use of such incompetent persons in Beerbhoom; but the supply of native doctors had been almost exhausted before Beerbhoom made known its wants. Dr. Jackson has promised to draft some competent native doctors from Burdwan, where the number of dispensaries and of the native doctors is being reduced. As there is every reason to fear that the epidemic fever is marching north or north-east through Beerbhoom, it is very desirable that proper and timely measures should be organized to give such succour as is possible to the people. If they could be persuaded to clean their tanks and purify their villages, it would be much for their benefit; but they would rather risk death than do this.

8. The report and the map showing the places affected by fever in the district of Midnapore will be submitted as soon as it is received from the Magistrate Mr. Harrison.

OFFENCES AGAINST MARRIAGE IN EASTERN BENGAL.

RESOLUTION.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

JUDICIAL.

Calcutta, the 23rd March 1873.

READ—

The undermentioned papers having reference to the increase of offences against marriage in Eastern Bengal, noticed in the crime report of the Dacca division for 1870:—

Extract paragraphs 28 and 29 of the resolution of Government, dated the 24th July 1871, on the crime report of the Dacca division for the year 1870.
Letter No. 6, dated the 12th January 1872, and enclosure, from the Commissioner.
„ of Government, No. 1501, dated the 4th March 1872.
„ from Commissioner, No. 198, dated the 29th May „
„ „ Government „ 3667, „ 15th June „
„ „ Commissioner „ 235A, „ 20th „ „
„ of Government „ 4196, „ 10th July „
„ from Commissioner „ 284, „ 27th „ „
Circular letter of Government No. 4796, dated 12th August 1872.

Read also the following replies of the other divisional Commissioners to the circular of Government, enquiring whether in the districts of their division Mahomedan marriages are now registered by any sort of Cazie recognized by the people, and whether divorces are so registered, or how either ceremony of registration is carried out:—

Letter No. 865C, dated the 17th September 1872, from the Officiating Commissioner of Cooch Behar.
„ No. 398, dated the 28th idem, from the Officiating Commissioner of Patna.
„ „ 2065T, „ „ „ Commissioner of Assam.
„ „ 514, „ 4th October 1872, from the Officiating Commissioner of Chittagong.

Letter No. 146, dated the 8th idem, from the Commissioner of the Orissa Division.
" " 500, " 25th " " " of Burdwan.
" " 8JE, " 8th November 1872, from the Officiating Commissioner of the Presidency Division.
" No. 1789, dated the 18th idem, from the Commissioner of Bhaugulpore.
" " 318, " 20th " " " of Rajshahye.
" " 10, " 3rd January 1873, from the Commissioner of Chota Nagpore.

Read also—

The letter No. 71T, dated the 12th February 1873, and enclosures, from the Commissioner of Dacca, reporting the result of the inquiries which he was requested to make into the working of the law on the subject.

1. In reviewing the crime report of the Dacca division for 1870, the Lieutenant-Governor's attention was drawn to the increased number of prosecutions for offences against marriage and the small proportion of convictions in such cases, and the Commissioner was asked to report, explaining the character of the evil and suggesting a remedy. The Commissioner in reply attributed the prevalence of the crime to the custom of *nikah* marriage among the lower classes of Mahomedans in Eastern Bengal, and the looseness of practice under that system, while the paucity of convictions was said to be due to the strictness of the proof of marriage which the courts required, and to the fact that the criminal courts were sometimes made use of improperly for recovery of wives deserting their husbands from ill-treatment. Mr. Simson pointed out the difficulty of proving Mahomedan marriages, and thought the evil had been aggravated to some degree by the abolition of the office of Cazie. On this further inquiry was made, whether the small number of convictions obtained, even in genuine cases of adultery and abduction, was really caused by any legal difficulty, and, if so, whether any change in the law for the purpose of regulating Mahomedan marriage was considered necessary. A circular was at the same time issued to all Commissioners asking whether any Cazies recognized by the people existed in their districts, and whether any system of registration of marriage or divorce was in vogue. From the replies received, it appears that the functions of Cazie in regard to the matters in question are not now generally exercised by any particular individual, but that some friend or headman generally officiates at marriages as Cazie for the occasion, reading over the form of prayer in the presence of witnesses. In many cases a *kabinama* or marriage contract is executed and occasionally registered. The Lieutenant-Governor's attention has also been drawn to a ruling of the High Court in the case of Queen *versus* Wazeera and Reejat Ali, from which it would appear that the strictness of proof formerly complained of as necessary is not really required.

2. Under these circumstances it appears to His Honor that the only practical step which can be taken under the law as it now stands is, in the first place, to multiply Mahomedan rural registrars in districts principally inhabited by Mahomedans, under the system which the Lieutenant-Governor has so continually urged; and secondly, to see that every facility for the registration of marriages and divorces is given by the registrars on specially easy terms as to fees. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that both the Commissioner and the Inspector-General of Registration will do all they can to promote these objects. They will both be now requested to submit special reports on the steps to be taken to give effect to the Lieutenant-Governor's orders. The subject is one of much social interest.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this resolution with extracts from the correspondence be now published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

Ordered, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Officiating Commissioner of Dacca, with a request that he will submit the special report required.

Ordered, that a copy of this resolution and of the correspondence therein mentioned, be forwarded to the Inspector-General of Registration, with a request that he will submit the special report required.

Ordered, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the General Department of this office for information.

Extract Paragraphs 28 and 29 from the resolution of Government, dated the 24th July 1871 on the Annual Crime Report of the Dacca Division for the year 1870.

PARA. 28.—The chief proportional increase is in offences relating to marriage, on which the Magistrate remarks that these cases are likely to increase, owing to the absence of any law on the subject of Mahomedan marriages. The subject has lately been before Government in connection with a proposal for restoring Cazies; and certainly in these districts, in which Mahomedans form, it is believed, much more than half the population, the statistics of offences relating to marriage indicate that there is a deficiency somewhere in the state of the law or social machinery in regard to it.

PARA. 29.—The figures are as follows:—

	1869.		1870.				
	No. of Charges.	Persons Accused.	No. of Charges.	Persons Accused.	Process issued.	Brought to trial.	Convicted.
Backergunge	293	785	566	1,478	384	179	13
Cachar	68	99	82	103	50	31	6
Dacca	97	125	162	488	188	123	19
Furreedpore	88	195	87	224	110	51	7
Mymensingh	266	654	289	1,195	169	128	13
Sylhet	161	228	158	213	67	17	5
Total ...	973	2,086	1,344	3,701	968	529	63

These figures seem to show conclusively (1) that a want is felt somewhere in the laws relating to marriage; (2) that the evil is on the increase; (3) that a persistent attempt is made to bring some social offence under the criminal law, which the scanty number of convictions shows to be not properly applicable. The same tendency was manifest in the districts of the Chittagong division, and was noticed by the Lieutenant-Governor. The Commissioner of Dacca should separately report on this subject, explaining precisely the character of the evil and the nature of the remedy which it requires.

No. 6, dated Dacca, the 12th January 1872.

From—F. B. SIMSON, ESQ., Commissioner of the Dacca Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

IN continuation of paragraph 5 of my letter No. 366, dated 15th ultimo, and with reference to paragraph 29 of the Government resolution on the Crime Report of this division for 1870, calling for a report on the subject of the crime against marriages, I have the honor to state that I do not answer the paragraph of the resolution with confidence. I have inquired in various quarters, official and non-official, and submit the following remarks.

2. The chief offences are adultery and taking away of wives. The complaints are almost confined to the lower class of Mahomedans. These classes marry and divorce with great facility; young girls are married very young, and often the rite is little else than the purchase of a wife, or sale of a young girl for marriage. By Mahomedan law, a girl is entitled to dowry, and if divorced, the dowry should be returned to her. But, in fact, I believe the dowry is little looked to among the poor, and if not stipulated for at first, is no check on divorce, and thus divorce is almost at the easy command of any husband indisposed to maintain his wife; a check therefore on freedom of divorce might be thought necessary. I however am not in favor of forcing continuance of the *vinculum matrimoniæ* when both parties desire to separate. All I would try and provide for in this particular, if interference is necessary, is, that the maintenance of the woman should be required, and should be procurable either from the civil or criminal court without expense.

3. All marriages, but the first, are called among Mahomedans *nika*, and if the first marriage has not secured for the girl a maintenance for life,

her *nika* or second marriage, it may be taken for granted, is little more than a legalized connection—the woman is less protected than in the case of original marriage.

4. Adultery is not punishable in England criminally. I have always been opposed to its having been made penal in the present code. The working of this part of the law has failed both among natives and Christians. The law as at present administered, requires complete proof of marriage, and here it works badly; the complainant must be the husband, or some one very nearly representing him, and the husband very generally fails to prove the formal marriage. This is said to be owing to absence of any legal arrangement for registration of marriages. When the Government appointed Cazies, these Cazies to some extent registered and proved marriages. It would be easy to provide some cheap method for registration of marriages among poorer Mahomedans. I would abolish the recognition of adultery by the criminal courts, and simply make it illegal to take away against a man's consent a woman living with him as his recognized wife, on the complaint of the husband or reputed husband, and I would require the civil court to assess damages, after the fact of illegal taking away has been established, according to the award of a jury of five persons of the status of the complaining husband. If the damages cannot be paid by the defendant, he should be made over by the civil court to the Magistrate for a certain but not long period of imprisonment.

5. There is another class of cases. Mahomedans marry many wives, and often ill-treat some of them; these flee from their husbands' houses and take refuge, sometimes with their parents or relatives, sometimes in more suspicious abodes, and quarrels ensue, and the husband complains against some one connected with the woman's family, the family generally siding with the woman. While I would allow the taking away of a woman from her husband to be punishable by damages in the civil court, I would also enable all Mahomedan wives, whose husbands have more than one wife, to procure divorces easily, on the ground of ill-treatment, cruelty, or unnatural neglect. If this safeguard be enacted, the woman would have no need to commit what is now looked on as a crime. The Mahomedan law is hard on the woman. I believe it only provides for divorce on the complaint and action of the husband, and does not allow the woman to initiate any suit for divorce.

6. Briefly then I consider (without being positive on the subject)—

1*st*.—That there is a want of facility for proving Mahomedan marriages and *nikas*.

2*nd*.—That the evil is on the increase, because it has to some degree originated in the abolition of Cazies; and though marriages are continually being made, no provision for registration has been made, or recognized by the poorer classes.

3*rd*.—That the crime of adultery has been made penal in the magistrate's courts wrongly, and fenced by necessity for proof difficult of production.

7. The remedies I would propose are—

1*st*.—Abolition of the interference of the criminal courts with adultery.

2*nd*.—Introduction of some cheap, easy method of registration of marriages for poor Mahomedans.

3*rd*.—Enactment compelling husbands to give wives divorced, for anything but adultery, maintenance till they marry again or die, and giving facilities to women to obtain divorce from their husbands on the ground of neglect, cruelty, or improper treatment.

4*th*.—A power to be given to the civil court to assess, with the aid of a jury of persons of the status of the husband, damages for adultery, seduction,

or taking away of men's wives; and to direct, on the non-payment of damages, that the offender be made over to the magistrate for imprisonment.

8. It is also necessary that the civil court should have authority to settle where the wife is to remain for the future. At present the Magistrate can neither deliver the woman to the husband, nor make any proper order; if the woman refuses to return to her husband, she should be required to proceed to a divorce, and if she fails in her plea, and will not return to her husband, she should be liable to damages, and even to imprisonment, as in the case of a man taking away another man's wife.

9. I hardly think special notice is required of the case of Hindus. Divorce is unknown to them, and few Hindu husbands will receive back an erring wife; the seducer should be liable to damages and imprisonment, as in the case of a Mahomedan man.

No. 1501, dated Calcutta, the 4th March 1872.

From—A. MACKENZIE, ESQ., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
To—The Commissioner of Dacca.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 6, dated 12th January last, reporting on the subject of crimes against marriages, and in reply to request that you will be good enough to get from the Magistrates of the districts of your division details regarding offences relating to marriage in the year 1870 and 1871, showing as follows:—

1. Nature of the charges made, and especially of those in which process issued. The different offences should be classified, and the number of each given.
2. The classes of people among whom those cases occurred.
3. The reason why so few of those charged were convicted.
4. Whether the fact of the existence of a marriage was disputed in many, if so, in what proportions, of the cases as nearly as can be ascertained.
5. Whether great difficulty arose in many cases from doubt whether the parties were married.
6. Whether such doubts, if there were doubts, principally arose among Mahomedans; and if so, why?
7. Whether in the opinion of the Magistrates any change in the law, for the purpose of regulating Mahomedan marriages is necessary.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor requests that you will submit these with your own opinion after due inquiry. His Honor observes that the Mahomedan law is generally very ready to assume marriage when parties live together as man and wife. His Honor does not think very strict proof is required in such a case. What the Lieutenant-Governor wants to ascertain is, whether there is real practical difficulty on the subject which a good officer cannot get over. That will of course depend principally on the manners and habits of the Mahomedans of Eastern Bengal, and the Lieutenant-Governor hopes the question will be cleared up.

No. 198, dated Dacca, the 29th May 1872.

From—A. ABERCROMBIE, ESQ., Offg. Commissioner of the Dacca Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

IN reply to your letter* No. 1501, I have the honor to offer the following remarks an the several points indicated therein.

* Dated 4th March 1872.

The information which has been furnished by the Magistrate as to the number of each kind of case is not, I think, very correct; but I do not think

this is of much moment, as by far the greater part of the cases are laid for adultery under section 498; a mere insignificant fraction of the whole number of institutions being scattered over the other sections.

2. These cases are almost without exception confined to the Mahomedan population. Once in a way such a complaint is laid by a Hindu, but it is exceedingly rare to find such a case, and the reason is plain; the Hindu cannot take back his wife, and if he is deserted, it is better to say no more about it than to spend money proclaiming his own disgrace and sorrow.

3. The reasons why so few of the accused are convicted are various.

A. In many cases convicted by the district court of session the High Court have annulled sentence on the ground of insufficient proof of marriage with the complainant, even, it is said, where no plea was set up calling in question the complainant's right to prosecute.

B. In a very large majority of instances the origin of the prosecution is that some *nika* drudge tired of her hard work, or possibly lured by better prospects elsewhere, deserts her husband's home; but when she finds he is in earnest about recovering her, and influenced possibly by promises of better treatment, or the adjustment of some grievance she has had, she agrees to go back to her home. The complainant then disappears from court, and accused is necessarily acquitted and discharged, if he has been brought up.

C. Another cause of these cases ending in acquittal is that a large number of them are instituted in respect of women whom their husbands have taken as *nika* wives out of a state of simple prostitution, and when the presiding officers of the court find out the character the woman has, they are not unreasonably careful where they lay the blame of an escapade.

D. Another reason for cases breaking down, is that complainants think it right to prove, and in many instances the court requires them to prove, the offence charged by eye-witnesses. This must ordinarily end in discomfiture: a woman wishing to leave her husband's protection is sure to do it, no matter what may be the motive or inducement, under cover of night, if any concealment be desired, and if she have accomplices, they will be pretty sure to see that the coast is clear before a move is made. Of course a surprise might occasionally occur; but in these cases the rule is to have a lot of witnesses who see the wife being carried or escorted away, and not unnaturally the courts reject such evidence.

E. Another way of escape for the accused, if the woman stick by him, is by setting up a plea of divorce, which can easily be supported by false evidence sufficient to make it impossible for the court to convict on the charge laid.

4. As a rule the marriage with complainant is not disputed.

5. In such few cases as occurred, in which there was any doubt whether the complainant was the husband of the woman, the doubt was not whether he had been married, but whether he had not also been divorced. The instances where any doubt occurred as to the complainant's having been the husband are very rare, and all the cases of these classes are among Mahomedans; in fact, with one or two exceptions here and there the whole of the marriage law cases are confined to Mahomedans.

6. The Magistrates are unanimously of opinion that no penal legislation is required. No penal enactment will improve the moral tone of a race, and short of a law prohibitive of polygamy, which would be held to be an interference with the religion of the Mahomedans, no legislation would be of any effect. Neither does it seem to be the fault of the law, which is not found defective in one part of the country, if in another part a particular class of offence comes prominently into notice. There are many circumstances which may conduce to this particular class of offence becoming common here, among

the chief of which is the long absence from home of many of the people following their vocation as trading boatmen. They go as far as Allababad, then to Calcutta, and perhaps not then straight home, staying away eight and ten months, and often longer—quite long enough for a lot of mischief to occur among a people notoriously sensual and under no restraint whatever. The difficulty which sometimes interferes with the successful prosecution of a real true case arising from the defect of proof of the marriage with complainant might, it is thought, be got over by a system of marriage registration by Cazies; it would cost the State nothing, and be effectual for the purpose of proving the complainant's right to prosecute. I think myself that where people are living together in the face of day as man and wife, and are so regarded by their neighbours, the legal presumption should be that they are man and wife; but as it is not so held by the High Court, a system of registration by Cazies might advantageously be tried. The Mahomedan gentlemen whose opinion have been taken are quite in favor of it, and to make it complete, the registration of divorces should be compulsory.

No. 3667, dated Calcutta, the 15th June 1872.

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
To—The Officiating Commissioner of Dacca.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 198, dated the 29th ultimo, reporting on the law in connection with offences against marriage in Eastern Bengal.

2. In reply I am to convey to you an expression of the thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor for your report.

3. The Lieutenant-Governor is, however, still in doubt upon one point. You state that the prosecutions are for adultery under section 498, but that section has reference to the enticing or taking away of a married woman with criminal intent, 497 being the section under which adultery is punishable. I am to request that you will now be good enough to state whether the cases brought before the courts were in fact instituted by the complainants under section 497, or section 498; and if under the latter section, why this was preferred.

4. You are requested also to indicate the cases in which the High Court have ruled that strict proof of marriage with the complainant is required, as the Lieutenant-Governor wishes to peruse the judgments of the court. If these are not published, you are desired to send copies.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor does not quite understand what you say about the evidence of eye-witnesses being thought necessary by the courts in some cases. If the woman is living with the other man, which is the common case of adultery, there will probably be no doubt in the case. It is only in case of a woman not living with the man, who is accused of enticing her away for a criminal purpose, that such proof as you allude to should be required. Such cases, the Lieutenant-Governor understands, are not common, and he thinks should not be admitted without good ground.

6. I am also to ask whether any Mahomedan marriages are now registered by any sort of Cazies recognized by the people, and whether divorces are so registered, or how either ceremony of registration is carried out.

No. 235A, dated Dacca, the 20th June 1872.

From—A. ABERCROMBIE, Esq., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

IN reply to your letter No. 3667, dated 15th instant, I have the honor to state that it was a mistake altogether my writing that the charges were laid "for adultery" under section 498; I should have merely said that the majority of prosecutions were under 498.

2. I give some figures—

		Sec.		Sec.
Dacca Sudder Sub-Division	1870	... 497	...	498
	,,	... ...	...	58
	1871	... ...	...	54
Mymensing District	1870	... 8	...	235
	1871	... 11	...	193

One of the reasons for preferring 498 may perhaps be that the case is triable by Magistrate, whereas under 497 it has to go to the sessions. The case *Queen* vs. *G. R. Smith*, 5th December 1865, IV, Weekly Reporter, and letter from Registrar, High Court, No. 1144, published in the same volume, have been the guide of the courts in their decision on these cases, and have been held to necessitate strict proof of marriage. Another case quoted in Mayne's Commentary* on 497, ruled that the same proof of intercourse is required in a prosecution for adultery as is required in rape cases.

* *Regina* vs.

3. In looking through the reports, I find there is a ruling of 6th January 1872, XVII, Weekly Reporter, under which in a case under 498 marriage is to be presumed from the fact of a man and woman living together and from their own evidence, specially when unrebutted.

4. I do not think this has been generally noticed, and I have called attention to it. With respect to what I said about the Court requiring evidence of eye-witness, I must point out that usually adultery is not charged, but enticing with intent, &c., and generally the name of a woman is given as having been heard to use language which would make her liable, and three or four men are named as having been seen to carry off the wife by night. Such a story may once in a way be true; but ordinarily, when there is any truth in the statement of the wife having left home, there is a violent probability that she should go by stealth in company of the lover or the woman who acted go-between, and therefore I am not prepared to say that the courts are wrong in requiring ocular proof of the case as set forth by the complainant.

5. The information required in your 6th paragraph will be submitted hereafter.

No. 4196, dated Calcutta, the 10th July 1872.

From—T. J. CHICHELE PLOWDEN, Esq., Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
To—The Officiating Commissioner of Dacca.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 235A, dated the 20th ultimo, submitting the information called for regarding certain points connected with offences against marriage in Eastern Bengal.

2. In reply I am to say that the Lieutenant-Governor fears that it is a subject of regret that the new Code of Criminal Procedure has not made adultery punishable by a Magistrate; for that is the real offence committed, and the offence under section 498 being much less simple, leads the parties into difficulties.

3. As regards the ruling respecting proof of marriage, that seems to be one of the many instances in which great harm is done by the publication in the Weekly Reporter and such books of an isolated order or judgment as if it were a general direction. It is no doubt necessary to make sure of a Christian marriage, as in the case *Queen* vs. *G. R. Smith*, quoted in your letter under reply; but the Mahomedan law much more easily presumes marriage. The Lieutenant-Governor thinks that where a man's wife really leaves him and lives with another man, he is entitled to redress; and the impression left on His Honor's mind by the recent correspondence is, that he seldom gets it.

4. His Honor desires that you will inquire carefully into the subject during your tours, especially as it effects the Mahomedan population of Eastern Bengal, and report whether the people feel themselves aggrieved, or whether

in fact you consider that there is a grievance and absence of justice. You should also consult with the most experienced Magistrates, and ascertain if they see any means of doing justice, notwithstanding an isolated judgment of the High Court regarding a case of a different character from that of the Bengali Mahomedan.

No. 284, dated Dacca, the 27th July 1872.

From—A. ABERCROMBIE, Esq., Officiating Commissioner of Dacca,
To—The Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Judicial Department.

IN continuation of the last paragraph of this office letter No. 235, dated 20th ultimo, I have the honor to report, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, that in no district of this division are Mahomedan marriages or divorces registered by any sort of Cazies recognized by the people. These rites are ordinarily performed in the presence of witnesses.

No. 4796, dated Calcutta, the 12th August 1872.

From—T. J. CHICHELE PLOWDEN, Esq., Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
To—All Commissioners (except Dacca).

THE attention of the Lieutenant-Governor having been drawn to the prevalence of offences against marriage in Eastern Bengal, I am directed to request that you will be good enough to report whether in the district of your division any Mahomedan marriages are now registered by any sort of Cazies recognized by the people, and whether divorces are so registered, or how either ceremony of registration is carried out.

No. 865C, dated Julpigoree, the 17th September 1872.

From—G. N. BARLOW, Esq., C.S.I., Offg. Commr. of Cooch Behar Division,
To—The Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

IN reply to your letter No. 4796 of 12th August last, I have the honor to state, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, that Mahomedan marriages and divorces are not registered by any sort of Cazies recognized by the people of this division.

No. 398, dated Bankipore, the 28th September 1872.

From—S. C. BAYLEY, Esq., Officiating Commissioner of the Patna Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

WITH reference to your letter No. 4796 of the 12th ultimo, on the subject of Mahomedan marriages, I have the honor to state that after due inquiries from the district officers, I find, rather to my surprise, that in none of the districts of this division are marriages among Mahomedans registered by any sort of Cazies recognized by the people.

2. The procedure generally followed in regard to marriages is to get some person to read the prayer at the time of performing the ceremony, and this person is honored with the title of Cazie for the time only. Two or three persons are also required to be present on the occasion, before whom the bridegroom agrees to pay the sum fixed as dowry or *den mohur*. The marriage is then completed according to custom, and no record of any kind is ever executed.

3. The Magistrate of Sarun reports that in his district a document called "kabinnamah" is sometimes drawn up on the subject by the Shea sect of the Mahomedans, but such documents are rarely, if ever, prepared on these occasions among the Soonees.

4. Divorces are generally effected by repeating the words "I divorce you" three times before two witnesses. No register is kept of the fact.

No. 2065T, dated Shillong, the 28th September 1872.

From—COLONEL H. HOPKINSON, Governor-General's Agent, North-Eastern Frontier and Commissioner of the Assam Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 4796, dated 12th August 1872, and in reply to state that I find, after inquiry from

the district officers, that Mahomedan marriages and divorces are not registered in this province by any sort of Cazies recognized by the people, nor indeed registered in any way.

2. The only ceremony which is observed in Mahomedan marriages, is that a "Kabinnamah" is executed by the bridegroom in the presence of the relatives of both the parties, by which he binds himself to act up to the precepts of the Mahomedan law. The execution of this deed, however, does not appear to be imperative, as marriages are sometimes performed without it. Divorce is frequently pronounced verbally in the presence of two or three witnesses.

No. 514, dated Chittagong, the 4th October 1872.

From—H. HANKEY, Esq., Offg. Commissioner of the Chittagong Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

WITH reference to your letter No. 4796, dated the 12th August 1872, I have the honor to report that as a rule neither marriages nor divorces appear to be registered among the Mahomedans by any sort of Cazies recognized by the people. Cazies are still frequently employed to read verses from the Koran at the time of marriage, but their duties at present are purely religious.

2. Marriages are performed by the mollahs or priests in the presence of respectable witnesses and relations of the parties. The kabinnama or marriage contract executed by the husband is always on stamped paper, and sometimes registered in the registry office. But there are reasons to believe that this is only done when the mohorana or dowry is considerable.

3. Deeds of divorce, talaknama, are sometimes, but rarely, registered. They are usually executed before relations and neighbours of the parties. It is not uncommon, however, to authenticate a divorce by making mention of the fact in a petition to a civil or criminal court, and obtaining a copy of the proceedings relating to it. With the lowest classes divorce is generally made verbally in the presence of a moulvie or some of the principal inhabitants of the place.

No. 146, dated Cuttack, the 8th October 1872.

From—T. E. RAVENSHAW, Esq , Commissioner of the Orissa Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

IN reply to your No. 1796 of 12th August 1872, I have the honor to state that in this division neither marriages nor divorces are regularly registered before any sort of recognized Cazie, in any places where there are Cazies or Naib Cazies recognized by the people. Marriages are generally performed in their presence, and they attest any deeds between the parties and make a memorandum for their own information, there is no formal registration. Where there are no recognized Cazies or none may be at hand, marriages are performed in presence of a punchayut, and the same procedure is observed in case of a divorce.

2. Generally documents of importance regarding dower are registered in the district or sub-divisional registration offices. Since 1865 when the registration law came into force Cazies have ceased to keep any formal registers of marriages or divorces. The old Cazies are still recognized by Mahomedans and receive either direct or through their deputies certain fees for their assistance when employed in marriage ceremonies.

No. 500, dated Burdwan, the 25th October 1872.

From.—C. T. BUCKLAND, Esq., Commissioner of the Burdwan Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

IN reply to your letter No. 4796, dated the 12th August last, I have the honor to report that in the districts of this division no Mahomedan marriages or divorces are registered by any sort of Cazies recognized by the people. I subjoin an abstract of the reports received from the district officers on the subject.

2. *Burdwan.*—The Magistrate of Burdwan reports that the ceremony of marriage is conducted in the presence of such relatives and acquaintances of the parties as they choose to invite. A dowry deed is drawn out in almost all cases of marriages, and most of them, if the parties choose, are registered in the Government registry office. It is stated that the want of Cazies officially

recognized by Government, authorized to perform these ceremonies, is felt by the Mahomedan population, and is regarded as a grievance.

3. *Bancoorah.*—The Magistrate of Bancoorah reports that a Cazie is present at the celebration of Mahomedan marriages, but it does not appear that any contract, then entered into, is reduced to writing. Certain promises (of provision in case of divorce of a blameless wife, &c.) are made by the bridegroom in the presence of the Cazie and other witnesses, and the terms of this verbal covenant seem to be ordinarily respected.

4. *Hooghly.*—The Magistrate of Hooghly, after consulting some respectable Mahomedans, gives detailed accounts of the practice in regard to marriages and divorces among the Mahomedans in his district. He observes that in case of a bride being a minor, she, on a fixed *dain mohur* before a congregation of the Mahomedans, is offered by her lawful guardian to the bridegroom, and when he accepts her the ceremony is performed; but when the bride has passed her minority, some respectable and pious man is selected from amongst those who happen to be present, for the performance of this particular ceremony in lieu of the lawful guardian, and such a man may be looked on as a Mollah or Cazie as far as the particular ceremony is concerned, but no more. The details of the ceremony are in such cases not quite so simple as in the case of minor brides. First the pious man is chosen; then a vakeel, also selected at the spur of the moment, accompanied by two witnesses, chosen from amongst the relatives of the bride, is sent to her to obtain her consent to the proposed alliance on what is called the *dain mohur*, *i.e.*, a promise of a certain dowry by the husband to the wife to be given in the event of dissolution of the marriage. This being obtained, and the evidence of the witnesses being taken down to that effect before the congregation, the respectable and pious man entrusted with performing the ceremony, offers the bride to the bridegroom, who then accepts her, and the ceremony is performed. In case where future disputes are suspected, the *kabinnamah* is written on stamp, and is registered with the consent of the parties concerned under the Indian Registration Act. As for a divorce, it depends entirely on the will of the husband, who can divorce her at any time, provided she misconducts herself. It is not necessary to call any assembly or witnesses, as such a custom is not current nor ordered in Mahomedan law; but occasionally where the woman by a divorce obtains the balance of advantage, *i.e.*, where the *dain mohur* to be paid her is large, and where she is consequently apprehensive that the husband will deny the divorce and reclaim the *dain mohur*, she makes him draw up a certificate or *farkhaty* paper, to which witnesses sign their names.

5. *Howrah.*—The Magistrate of Howrah observes that the omission to register Mahomedan marriages or divorces has led to a very loose system of morality as regards marriages. When a Mahomedan wishes to divorce a woman, he gets rid of her by simply informing his neighbours that she is at liberty to go where she pleases, and he refuses to support her any longer.

6. *Midnapore.*—The Magistrate of Midnapore reports that the upper classes adopt precautions to prove their marriages, and sometimes register in the registration office the *dain mohur* or deeds of dower; but Cazies are not resorted to by the lower classes, who marry by verbal agreement and without any registration or record. This, he observes, is in principle a very grave evil, only not felt to any extent in his district, because the Mussulmans form but a small fraction of the entire population. He strongly advocates the reappointment of Cazies as marriage registrars, to be paid by a fee for each marriage celebrated.

7. I beg to add that certain demi-official or confidential reports, regarding the intervention of Cazies in marriage ceremonies, were called for by Government in 1869 (if I remember rightly), and I would suggest that a reference should be made to them.

No. 8JE, dated Calcutta, the 8th November 1872.

From—H. A. Cockerell, Esq., Offg. Commissioner of the Presidency Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

With reference to Government order No. 4796, dated 12th August, I have the honor to report that Mahomedan marriages or divorces are not registered by Cazies or in any other way in any of the districts of this division.

No. 1789, dated Bhaugulpore, the 18th November 1872.

From—J. W. DALRYMPLE, Esq., Commissioner of the Bhaugulpore Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

WITH reference to your letter 4796 of the 12th August last, I have the honor to state that Mahomedan marriages are not now registered in the district of this division by any sort of Cazies recognized by the people, nor are divorces so registered. In Purneah, however, Cazies do exist, and marriages between Mahomedans are generally made in their presence, but no registers are kept by them, nor are their services required in cases of divorce.

No. 318, dated Berhampore, the 20th November 1872.

From—E. W. MOLONY, Esq., Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

WITH reference to your No. 4796 of the 12th August last, I have the honor to state that the registration of Mahomedan marriages and divorces is not now in existence in any district in the division, the practice has apparently been done away with since the abolition of the office of Cazie. The person who now celebrates the marriage rites, &c., called either Cazie or Mollah, keeps no record of the ceremonies performed by him.

2. In Bograh the head of the family performs the ceremony, and in Dinagepore and Maldah the ceremony is performed by Mollahs; and in the latter district the Mollah or the officiating priest receives a fee for it. A case was also reported from that district in which it appeared that a person calling himself a Naib Cazie gave authority to one Kiamut Mundul and others to collect fees for marriages.

3. Fees are also collected by the officiating priest in Pubna and Rungpore, the Magistrates of which districts also state that a portion of the fee goes to the zemindar's pocket. In Pubna Cazies are sometimes appointed by the zemindars; and in a case of bigamy tried in this district; it appeared that the zemindar received the fees and entered their receipt in a book.

4. The Magistrate of Bograh recommends the re-appointment of Cazies, but with fixed salaries, for registering Mahomedan marriages and divorces. He states that the absence of documentary evidence and the admission of parol evidence of marriage is leading to much litigation in the civil court, and that much inconvenience is being felt by the people for want of arrangements for the registration of divorces. It is stated that people frequently come to him, as Magistrate, with petitions to give sanction to divorces, and that he returns them with an endorsement that he cannot receive such petitions; the petitions are often accordingly exchanged by the parties in his presence as proof of the divorce.

5. The Magistrate of Pubna is also of opinion that the Mahomedans should be glad to have the former system of registering marriages by Cazies re-introduced.

6. Until compulsory registration of marriages and divorces could be insisted on, it would be no use statistically to appoint an agency for registration; and considering that the present custom does not require a record to be made, I should be disinclined to recommend any Government interference at present.

No. 10, dated Camp Chaibassa, the 3rd January 1873.

From—COLONEL E. T. DALTON, C.S.I., Commissioner of Chota Nagpore,
To—L. C. ABBOTT, Esq., Under-Secy. to the Government of Bengal.

IN reply to your office letter No. 4796 of the 12th August last, I have the honor to state, on the authority of the replies on the subject from the Deputy Commissioners and other information, that there is no registration of Mahomedan marriages in this division, and, from all I can learn, never has been, yet there are functionaries claiming to be hereditary Cazies in Hazareebaugh and Palamow. The Hazareebaugh man lives in Gya I believe. His naibs attend marriages, and report them to the Cazie, but no record is kept.

2. In Palamow for poor people the same custom is in force, but wealthy and respectable persons obtain marriage certificates, which they keep themselves.

3. In regard to divorce, it does not appear that any registration is kept or document given.

No. 71T, dated Camp Furreedpore, the 12th February 1873.

From—A. ABERCROMBIE, ESQ., Offg. Commissioner of Dacca,
To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

WITH reference to your letter No. 4196, of 10th July 1872, and other correspondence, on the subject of offences against marriage in Eastern Bengal, I have the honor to state that after inquiry by letter from all the districts of the division, and personal conference with Mahomedans in most of them, I have came to the conclusion that we do not at present require any legislative action in the matter, except for the provision of a system of registry of marriages.

2. Mahomedan law and practice is understood to accept the fact of a man and woman living together as man and wife before the village public as presumptive evidence of their being married to each other, and in a decision of the High Court of 6th January 1872, XVII, W. R., referred to in my No. 235A, the court held that marriage is to be presumed from the fact of a man and woman living together, and from their own evidence, specially when the presumption is not rebutted.

3. All that is required therefore on this point, is to get a full-bench ruling of the court to this effect. What shall be considered sufficient evidence that the couple have been living as man and wife, must always remain a question of fact, to be considered in each case as it comes up, but in this I do not think that complainant would find any grievance, as the sympathy is undoubtedly with the injured husband until his own misconduct is proved. As to the difficulty which has been suggested, of proving that the seducer knew or had reason to believe that the woman he has been meddling with is another man's wife, I should make nothing of that; because, if the evidence raised the presumption that the parties are man and wife, it will lie with the interloper to prove that he did not know what was patent to any one in the village, and accepted as a recognized fact.

4. It is a very generally received opinion that a very large number of these cases are made up out of court as soon as the accused find that matters are getting unpleasantly warm, the complainant as a rule being glad to drop the prosecution on getting back the woman, especially if the accused is sufficiently alarmed to throw in a few rupees as the costs in the case already incurred by the complainant.

5. While, as I stated above, all the Mahomedan gentlemen are opposed to any special legislation, there is a strong feeling in favor of some system of registry of marriages, which some officers would make compulsory and others would leave voluntary.

6. The only difficulty of the case is to regulate the number of Cazies we would have. If it were to be a compulsory registration, with penal consequence for omission, it would be impossible to require the people to go to any distance for it, and Cazies would be too common and too cheap for their work to command respect, unless they were more closely looked after than it would be possible to manage without a disproportionate outlay; and on this account, as well as to avoid giving occasion to the ill-disposed ones to raise a cry against the institution as an insidious plan for subverting the religion of Islam, I would be opposed to a compulsory measure. Some of the people who have been consulted also say that if it be compulsory, and the facilities for obtaining registry be not great, and the expense small, many more persons will keep women as concubines than now do so, rather than be put to trouble and an expense that has not been customary.

7. The root of the evil is beyond our grasp, for there is no doubt that it lies in the plurality of wives permitted by the Mahomedan faith. This permission was, I believe, originally intended to be availed of by the faithful in the event of a man's first wife proving barren. In which event the Hindu also is allowed a second wife; but the Mahomedans have perverted the original intention of what their law gives, taking advantage of the absence of any clear definition of the circumstances under which a man may take four wives, and construed the permission, which was intended to be regulated by circumstances, into a general one, of which any one may take advantage as his fancy guides him. I questioned several Mahomedan gentlemen as to whether it ever happened that a woman was found to have deserted if there were no other wife in the house, and they all admitted that such a case had not come to their knowledge. No doubt they do happen, just as among the lowest orders among the Hindus we hear of occasional instance of seduction, but they are unquestionably very rare.

8. The way in which the lower orders of the population habitually treat their wives—and I might say not the lowest orders only—is another fruitful cause of misconduct among the women. As parents, the people are proverbially kind to their children, but the women are knocked about just as if they had no more sense than the brute beasts. Thus continual ill usage from the husband, with constant hard work, and as not unfrequently happens, the taunts of a more favoured wife, and the scolding tongue of a mother-in-law, make the life of a woman a burden to her, and she leaves her husband's house far more frequently on account of the neglect and ill-usage she got there than from any inherent viciousness in her own nature. In many cases it is found that the woman has gone to the protection of her father or brother, or a married sister's house, and then the husband makes a 498 case against all her relations, male and female, and at the same time he promises all sorts of things; and to get out of trouble and expense her friends persuade the woman she will be forced in the end to go back, so it is better to go with a good grace. Then the complainant disappears from the court, and it appears as if there had been a failure of justice.

9. I append the letters of Messrs. Reynolds and Wells, and Deputy Magistrate Syud Mahomed Israil and Moulvie Mahomed on the subject.

No. 212, dated Mymensing, the 18th April 1872.

From—H. J. Reynolds, Esq., B.A., Magistrate of Mymensing,
To—The Commissioner of Circuit, Dacca Division.

With reference to your No. 93, dated the 11th ultimo, I have the honor to submit the statement of offences relating to marriage in this directed during the years 1870 and 1871.

2. Nineteen-twentieths of these cases occurred among Mahomedans of the lower classes, a few were brought by Chandals and low caste Hindus.

3. The reasons why so few defendants are convicted in these cases are of three kinds, 1*st*, the large proportion of false complaints, 2*nd*, the difficulty of proving the facts in true cases, 3*rd* the frequent occurrence of settlements out of court.

4. The existence of a marriage was disputed in 1870, in 12 of the 119 cases in which process was issued, and in 1871 in 13 out of 73 cases.

5. Great difficulty arose in 1870 in 15 cases, and in 1871 in 8 cases from doubt whether the parties were really married. It is to be remarked that although in 1870 the fact of the marriage was disputed in only 12 cases, the law requires strict legal proof of the performance of the first marriage ceremony in charges of bigamy, and hence the difficulty may arise even when the fact of the marriage is not denied.

6. These doubts arose in all cases among Mahomedans. This appears to me to be owing to the want of any proper registration of Mahomedan marriages, and to the performance of the marriage ceremony by illiterate mollahs of a low class. An example of this occurred in a case under section 498 which came before me the other day. The woman denied that she had ever been married to the complainant, and he offered to produce the mollah who had married them. A man attended, and deposed that he had married the parties 5 years ago; that he had not previouly or subsequently known them; that he kept no register of marriages which he performed, and had nothing but his memory to trust to.

7. In this great district the great majority of complaints are under section 498, and my own practice is first to take very carefully the deposition of the complainant, and then to summon (under section 180) some one connected with the case, such as the woman's father, or brother, and take his evidence. I am unwilling to issue process in the first instance against the alleged wife or paramour, as I believe in the great majority of cases the charges are not brought in good faith, and that the process of the court, if issued, would often be turned into a mere engine of extortion. At the some time I must confess that I feel a serious practical difficulty in this class of cases, and I doubt whether an English Magistrate is well fitted to deal with them. A proper system of registration of marriages would meet one part of the difficulty, but not the whole. The evil seems to me to be of a social character, upon which legislation would have no effect. The practice of giving dowries which would be some check upon the husband, is not common among Mussulmans of the lower classes. A man marries two or three wives, and ill-treats one of them, who runs away to her father's or brother's house. Her husband takes no steps to bring her back, and contributes nothing to her support. After the lapse of perhaps a year, her family hint that they cannot maintain her longer, and she contracts a *nikah* marriage with another man, who perhaps knows, and perhaps does not know, that she has another husband living. Such cases are of daily occurrence, and it does not seem equitable that under such circumstances the husband should be allowed to prosecute this wife and her second husband.

8. I do not recommend, as Mr. Simson did, the transfer of the cognizance of cases connected with marriage from the criminal to the civil courts. I have alaways regarded with the greatest aversion the practice of the English law in giving damages in cases of adultery and seduction. The only legislative changes that I would advise are the introduction of a system of registration of marriages, and an enactment that the desertion of a wife for a period of 12 months should be a bar to any prosecution by the husband under chapter XX.

Statement of crimes against marriages that occurred during the year 1870.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Serial No.	Nature of offence under the Penal Code.	No. of cases instituted.	No. of cases in which process issued.	No. of persons brought to trial.	No. of persons convicted.	No. of persons acquitted or discharged.	No. of persons pending, died, or escaped or transferred.
1	Section 494, 495, 496, Indian Penal Code	46	24	35	.....	33	2
2	Section 497, Indian Penal Code	8	6	8	.....	8	.....
3	Section 498, Indian Penal Code	235	89	88	13	70	5
	Total ...	289	119	131	13	111	7

MYMENSING,
MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE;
The 18th April 1872.

H. REYNOLDS,
Magistrate.

Statement of crimes against marriages during the year 1871.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Serial No.	Nature of offence under the Penal Code.	No. of cases instituted.	No. of cases in which process issued.	No. of persons brought to trial.	No. of persons convicted.	No. of persons acquitted or discharged.	No. of persons pending, died, escaped or transfered.
1	Section 494, 495, 496, Indian Penal Code	30	12	13	2	11	.....
2	Section 497, Indian Penal Code	11	11	13	.....	13	.....
3	Section 498, Indian Penal Code...	193	50	47	2	43	2
	Total ...	234	73	73	4	67	2

MYMENSING,
MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE;
The 18*th April* 1872.

H. REYNOLDS,
Magistrate.

No. 422, dated Mymensing, the 2nd September 1872.

From—H. J. REYNOLDS, ESQ., B.A., Magistrate of Mymensing,
To—The Commissioner of Circuit, Dacca Division.

IN answer to your No. 321, dated the 19th August, I have the honor to report that I have little or nothing to add to the remarks already submitted in my No. 212 of the 18th April last. That report was written after careful consideration of the subject, and after consulting some persons whom I thought qualified to give intelligent opinions on the questions referred to.

2. I have had an opportunity of perusing the report furnished to you by Deputy Magistrate Syed Mahomed Israil of this station, a gentleman who may be considered very fairly to represent the views prevalent among the more refined and educated class of his co-religionists. This report (the opinions of which I have also had confirmed from other sources) shows that the present state of things is considered to be a grievance, and that Mahomedans who appeal to the criminal courts in matters relating to marriage feel little confidence that the law will redress what they consider to be their wrongs. But in reading this report I was forcibly struck with the entire one-sidedness of the views propounded. The subject is fully as much a woman's question as a man's: but the Deputy Magistrate seemed to me to handle it entirely from the husband's point of view, and altogether to omit to notice the injustice to the other sex which the present state of the conjugal relation among Mahomedans so frequently involves.

3. The subject is surrounded with so much uncertainty, and I feel so little confidence in the power of an English Magistrate to get at the real truth in these cases, that I should be unwilling to commit myself to any positive expression of opinion whether the very small proportion of convictions in charges under chapter XX really implies an unredressed grievance and a failure of justice. But my own impression is, that in the great majority of these cases there is really no grievance at all and that if changes in legislation were to remove any of the technical difficulties which at present stand in the way of procuring a conviction, the interests of justice, in the broadest sense of the term, would not really be advanced.

4. The Government letters appear to imply that in charges of bigamy and adultery it would be desirable to relax the rule which requires strict legal proof to be adduced of the performance of the marriage ceremony. I must confess that my experience as a Magistrate does not lead me to coincide in this view.

5. At the same time, I should be strongly in favor of the establishment of an efficient system for the registration of marriages, and this on grounds altogether unconnected with the consideration of the conduct of prosecutions in this class of cases. The welfare of society appears to me to demand that

the most important of all social contracts should be placed under the cognizance of the State.

6. The evils complained of are not such as can, in my opinion, be removed by legislation, or by a laxer interpretation of the existing law, while the social balance is so unequal as it is at present, the only result of such steps would be to put more power into the hands of those who have too much already. The remedy it appears to me, is to be found only in the gradual spread of intelligence, and in the recognition by Mahomedan husbands of the truth that the married state implies duties as well as rights.

Dated Mymensing, the 14th August 1872.

From—Syud Mohamed Israil, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Mymensing,
To—The Commissioner of Dacca on tour at Mymensing.

In obedience to your order I have the honor to submit the following report for your perusal:—

From the inquiry that I have been able to make during the short time into the subject, as to whether the Mahomedans feel themselves aggrieved by not being able to recover their wives when they desert them, and from my personal experience, I can say almost with a certainty that they really do feel so.

It is not a very uncommon thing for a wife to lodge a complaint against her husband on the allegations that she has been kept in wrongful confinement, and that she therefore asks the court to release her. This is of course done when the woman has a paramour who manages every thing behind the screen, and gains over some dependent people or easy-hearted men, who are adduced to depose to the truth of the allegations. Their depositions are taken, and the Magistrate, who has no other kind of evidence to have the truth disclosed to him, finds that the woman has been really kept in confinement and consequently orders her release, and she forsakes the poor man to whom she has been lawfully wedded, and goes to and lives with her paramour, who in turn may share the same fate with the husband. Thus, the husband is left to bewail his lot; but cases like this are not of every day occurence; what is more usual is the filing of petitions by the husband against the wives under sections 494 and 498 of the Indian Penal Code. Some crafty man of an immoral character puts temptations in her way, and prevails upon her to forsake her lawful husband, and then he manages to elope with her and steal a match. The husband finding himself robbed of his wife hastens to the magistrate's court and files a petition, so that he may have his wife and her paramour punished for marrying during his life time, or he prays that the offender under section 498 of the Indian Penal Code may be punished and his wife restored to him; but as these sections require strict proof of the previous marriage or of the seductions alleged as the grounds of his wife's forsaking him on many occasions he gets no redress of his greavences for want of satisfactory proof in the criminal courts. This is owing, I believe, to the provisions of Mahomedan law, that marriage and dud divorce can be legally proved by two witnesses or one male and two female witnesses. So, when a marriage takes place among the lower orders of the Mahomedans, generally two or three person are made witnesses. If the husband, to prove his case, brings these men as his witnesses, his wife will probably, through the influence of her paramour, adduce double or triple the number to prove that the husband has given her *talak* in due form, *i.e.*, legally divorced her, and that thus having the previous marriage tie dissolved she had been married to such a man. The subsequent marriage goes under the name of *nika*. I hope it will not be out of place here to give a short interpretation of the word *nika*. It is an Arabic word, originally used as a generic term for marriage of all kinds, but as people solemnize their first marriage with great splendour and pomp, the word *shadi* which literally means delight, has superseded the word *nika* as regards the first marriage; and from the Hindu idea of the marriage of widows being disgraceful, the Mussulmans, long being among the Hindus, have imbibed the same sentiments, and perform these second marriages with much less of show, and have confined the word *nika* only to subsequent marriages.

Now to resume. The husband in consequence of the preponderance of evidence in favor of his deserting wife, loses his case in the criminal courts. The only other remedy left to him is to bring a civil action for the restitution of conjugal rights, but here also his fate virtually proves no better. If he succeeds in proving his case, he at the best gets a declaratory decree, for the wife cannot be bodily *delivered* over to the husband. The court merely orders her to return to her husband, though in the event of her declining to do so she may be imprisoned for contempt, but I am not aware of a wife being imprisoned for this non-compliance. In several cases settlements are made out of court with the aggrieved husband, who is hushed up on receiving a sum of money in a lump. This is mostly owing to the husband's being conscious of the expensiveness and tediousness of going through the labyrinth of law, and conscious also perhaps of the doubtful issue of the case.

Another mode of dissolving the marriage tie is by conversion to any other religion, though this mode is very seldom had recourse to, it is not altogether out of use. A woman gets her divorce by change of religion and marries her paramour, the sole object perhaps of her conversion, when again she reverts to Islamism. This, I think, is not at all the spirit of the Mohamedan religion, but is an invention of later times. It was first brought into play by some unfortunate man during the reign of Caliph Harunal Rusid of Mecca, but it cost the head of the founder. This mode, however, of getting divorce was forgotten for a long time, when it was very lately revived, and I have heard of a very few cases coming under this head, but all these cases had been amicably settled. I beg to propose that such marriages be not recognized by law, and that the wife be remained to the first husband, if he likes to have her, and in the event of his refusal, he may be ordered to divorce her formally before the woman is allowed to choose for herself a new husband.

Such are the cases that occur among the Mahomedans of the lower classes.

How to redress the grievances that make many a man miserable through life, and many a home comfortless, is the most important and useful question, and it is a question, in which, I fear, it will be vain to look for unanimity of opinion. I am not therefore prepared to put forward any propositions which must root out the evils that underlie the Mahomedan system of marriage; but I shall humbly lay certain suggestions before you, which I hope will prove effectual in remedying the evils under notice to some extent.

If by legislative enactment it were made incumbent to register all marriages, the evils, I believe, might be removed, though not wholly. For this, I think competent, conscientious Mahomedans should be appointed as registrars, each of them having jurisdiction over two or three villages at the most; but as it is furthest from the desire of the Government to interfere with religion and custom of the people, I would beg to suggest that rules of registration laid down in Act III of 1872 (*i.e.*) Brahmo Marriage Act be not made to apply in toto in the cases of Mahomedan marriages; for if these rules should apply, it will be imperative upon the parties intending to marry to present themselves before the registrar. It will be looked upon as interfering with the religious customs of the Mahomedans. Even among the Mussulmans of the lowest class the bride is not allowed to come out at least for a few days before and after marriage. The custom with regard to this is so strict that the marriages cannot be solemnized even in the house of the bridegroom, I would therefore suggest that it be made imperative upon the registrar to attend every marriage ceremony taking place within his jurisdiction. The intending parties should before a week or so of the marriage send to the registrar a notice of their intentions to marry. The registrar should have two registry books, one for marriage, and the other for divorce; after a marriage has been celebrated, the names, residence, &c., of the married couple, the date in which it is celebrated, and the names of the persons present on the occasion, and the like, should be entered into the first book. In the event of any divorce the same formalities should be observed. It should also form a part of his duty to send to the Magistrate of the district a monthly or bi-monthly return of the number of marriages or divorces that may have taken place during the period. This will help the Magistrate to a great way to find out at once whether a marriage was valid or invalid.

I further beg to add that if any marriage or divorce should take place without the prescribed registration, the parties contracting the marriage or divorcing should be subjected to some penalty, and be made to have it registered in due form after proper inquiry as to their legality. If the registrar himself was to marry or divorce, he should be made liable to have it registered by any other than himself. Such laws, if passed, will, I hope, help much towards diminishing the crimes of murder frequently committed by the injured husband.

According to Mahomedan law divorce is presumed if the husband be absent for seven years at the least, and if nothing be heard of him during the period, and perhaps it is not unreasonable to allow such a length of time to elapse before divorce is presumed, for if a shorter time be fixed, it will be productive of much evil to the society.

I am afraid my report has been to a great extent in favor of men to the disregard of the claims of women upon the Government, which they certainly have of getting their grievances redressed. It is not altogether unfrequent that a woman is also ill-treated by her husband, and in consequence she is obliged to leave her husband, and to stay perhaps with her father or brother who may get tired of supporting her, when she has no other alternative than contracting a second marriage, which certainly, according to the Mahomedan law, is not valid. But the grievances of women under such circumstances unquestionably demand redress. I do not know what suggestions to make in similar cases, except that the provisions of sections 316 of the Criminal Code of Procedure should be embodied in a more indulgent form to the women into the law, which may be enacted upon crimes relating to a marriage.

In conclusion, I beg to state that the mere revival of the *Cazie* system will not answer the purpose of the proposed registrar, for, from the information that I have been able to gather, I am almost clear on the point that the *Cazie* never used to register marriages or divorces, though they frequently conducted the ceremony and registered the *kabin* or deed of dower.

No. 1106, dated Furreedpore, the 20th September 1872.

From—W. S. Wells, Esq., Magistrate of Furreedpore,
To—The Commissioner of the Dacca Division.

With reference to your memorandum No. 321, dated 19th ultimo, forwarding Government No. 4196, dated 10th July last, I have the honor to submit in original, for your consideration, a report on the subject, furnished by Deputy Magistrate Moulvie Mohummud at my request.

2. In this office letter No. 378, dated 11th April 1872, the circumstances attending a Mahomedan marriage have already been described, and it has been pointed out that the simplicity of form actually required, shorn as it is of all ceremony by the Ferazie doctrine, renders it difficult to satisfactorily establish the marriage after the lapse of a few years.

3. The Mahomedan law and hakeems have always allowed lengthened cohabitation to be sufficient proof of the parties being married, because their religion, admitting of a plurality of wives and easy divorce, and it being a serious disgrace to a women to cohabit with a man unless married, it is reasonable to assume that the *nika* has been gone through.

4. I fear, however, that it will be impossible to force this presumption in our Sessions Courts, unless the High Court make some full-bench ruling on the subject.

5. The only satisfactory solution then is, to have a cheap and yet thoroughly efficient and trustworthy form of registration. It would not do to scatter marriage registrars indiscriminately all over the country to the extent of one for every two or three villages, as the remuneration would be inadequate; the registrars men of straw; and the courts would place little or no credence on what they might record.

6. I do not concur with the Moulvie in thinking it any hardship for the inhabitants of these eastern districts, who daily move about in boats over the net-work of khalls which intersect the country with their women folk without hesitation, and in perfect safety, to be required to go some short distance to register their marriages. In the dry season a woman of respectability would be carried in a dooly as they go to be married.